CANADA AND ATIONAL SERVICE

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CANADA
AND
NATIONAL SERVICE

BY

COLONEL WILLIAM HAMILTON MERRITT

PRESIDENT THE CANADIAN DEFENCE LEAGUE

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This book is dedicated to the memory of my friend

LIEUT.-COL. GEORGE TAYLOR DENISON
(*Jr.*)

a Canadian soldier who gave his life for the British Empire on the blood-stained fields of France while the printer's ink was still moist on these pages.

A veritable appeal from the grave to the Canadian people to adopt Universal Military Service came from him. The appeal was in a letter received by the author after the writer had fallen.

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FOREWORD

The recognition that all was not well with the system of defence in vogue in Canada, that we lacked even the basic principle of national organisation and preparedness, did not come to me through being told something or reading something. In my case it eventuated from a distinct process of evolution, through seeing vastly different results from other conditions, and then from enquiring into what had brought them about.

It is now nearly a dozen years ago that chance led me into the mountains of Switzerland, after more than a score of years' experience in the Canadian Militia. There, enquiry into the matter of shooting led to an enfolding of enough of the wonder of a true democracy of defence thoroughly to arouse my interest. This was the beginning of a general investigation, at every opportunity, of the Military systems pertaining to other countries, and of an examination into the conditions that prevailed in Canada in our past history. By contrast the hopelessness of our existing conditions was all too apparent.

The facts presented in the following pages concerning these things were gradually accumulated, and many of them were contributed from time to time in papers to the Canadian Military Institute,

in addresses before such representative bodies as the Canadian Club, the Empire Club, the Toronto Board of Trade, the Military Institutes at Montreal and Winnipeg, the United Empire Loyalist Association, the citizens of Calgary, and through frequent communications to the public press.

It would be ungrateful to complain at good-natured tolerance on the part of our public, but it was certainly very apparent that no great apprehension was created.

Even at the present critical time it seems that the political and commercial world is much more concerned with the matter of contracts for munitions and war supplies, and with commercial preparedness for peace, than with anything which is drastic or obligatory as necessary to win the war and to give a permanent foundation for future national security.

As this book may fall into the hands of persons who are strangers to me, and who might reasonably ask as to what experience the writer has had bearing on matters involved herein, it may be proper and indeed necessary briefly to state that from a private I was gazetted an officer and went through the grades of rank to that of a Regimental Commander and a Brigade Commander in the Canadian Militia, serving the usual tenure of command as one and the other. During that time I had the experience of serving in the North-West (Riel) Rebellion and the South African War. In the latter the service was in two periods, first with Brabant's Horse, a South African regiment (I went to South Africa at

my own expense to seek service), and second, with the 2nd Canadian Mounted Rifles, an Imperial unit raised in Canada. From the above-mentioned services, came the receptive mind and practical experience which enabled me to appreciate the impressions above recorded, when visiting Switzerland in later years.

Further, for the same reasons, perhaps I should state that those in kindred line of thought appear to have had some measure of confidence in my views and organising ability, as is borne out by my having been elected President of the Canadian Military Institute for ten years in succession and Honorary President for the past three years, presiding officer of the Canadian Defence League since it was formed in 1909 to further universal military training and service in Canada, and President of the Canadian Cavalry Association for the year 1912.*

I cheerfully acknowledge that a wider vision of the needs of the British Empire was brought home to me by the remarkable paper of Mr. L. S. Amery, M.P., on "Military Geography," in which he most clearly proved that the security of the Empire depends on its general adoption of universal military service. Therefore my plea before the Empire Club that Canada should not continue to be "the weak link in the Imperial chain" was founded on good authority.

I cannot do better in these few introductory remarks than by asking the question and supplying

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[1] This Association was the first military body in Canada to advocate Compulsion. On 29 Feb., 1912, it unanimously enacted "That this Assocation commends and approves of the principle of universal military training in Canada."

the answer of the greatest of our Colonial Ministers, the Rt. Hon. Joseph Chamberlain: *"What is the greatest of our common obligations? It is defence!"* And might I venture to go a step further and add Chamberlain's succeeding question and answer, *"What is the greatest of our common interests? It is Imperial trade!"*

Surely as the acceptance of a fundamental basis for these great principles should precede cut and dried schemes for carrying them out, it is of paramount importance for us in Canada first to weld our girders of defence of a sound, sure strength, and adopt the principle of common interests, before we venture to ask for a place at an Imperial Board as a represetative partner. With steel ribs of obligation in defence, covered by the cement of trade, an Imperial structure on foundations of mutual respect and love, deep and strong, will defy the ravages of time.

This book is not designed as a plea for meeting the problem of keeping the ranks of the divisions at the front at full strength. Compulsory universal military service would, however, if adopted at once, do this, and at the same time it would give a basis for a sane defence system for Canada, as a responsible member of the British Empire, for the future. Perhaps this, unhappily, may be too much to hope for, as "indifference" appears to want an emergency measure. The public mind seems to have grasped the idea that under the mutilated remnant of our splendid old Militia Act we can bring in compulsion by Order-in-Council.

Here, in that event, is the point of which, every lover of his country will pray, sight may not be lost. Speed up enlistment by any and every means that may lay in the power of our legislators or ourselves, but for God's sake do not let us forget the fact that the solving of the immediate problem—tremendous though it be—is not the only goal to be aimed at, for above and beyond it all lies the great future with its mysteries and cares, and that nothing but a changed Militia law—back somewhat to what it was a hundred years ago—will give us that stability of purpose, upbuilding of character and physique, and safety to Dominion and Empire which comes from a virile system of national organisation, based on *Universal Military Training and Service.*

Professor F. F. Roget of Geneva, who has so greatly aided the National Service League campaign in England, first suggested the idea of a compilation in book form and my thanks are due to him for much kindly interest. I also wish to acknowledge the encouragement and suggestions of Mr. Edward Wodson, the Secretary of the Canadian Defence League.

Practically all this book was written while Canada had no Compulsory Military Service in force, or apparently even in contemplation. Some of the argument in its favour may seem to be somewhat superfluous if the obligatory service clauses of the Militia Act by draft or otherwise are brought into force, or if a Special Act for the war only is adopted. Yet as a matter of fact every line and every argument holds good until Canada adopts, *as a perma-*

nent system, some form of Universal Military Training and Service, and in face of a mere emergency measure, necessary as it may be, the pressure needed to bring about a stable National System is all the more required until it is an accomplished and established fact.

W.H.M.

Toronto,
June 1st, 1917.

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Though they may be considered of comparative unimportance, I note, as a matter of record the following additional victories (See pages 67-68), given by C. Eugene Panet, Deputy Minister of Militia, in an official report dated October 13, 1876:

1812

June	1.	Attack upon Isle Aux Noix.
July	1.	Raid on Plattsburg.
"	29.	Engagement near Amherstburg.
Aug.	7.	Double attack on Amherstburg.
"	9.	Stores captured near Detroit.
Nov.	20.	Battle of La Colle.
"	27	Engagement near Fort Chippawa.

1813

Jan.	19.	Skirmishing on River Raisin.
May	27.	Attack on Sackett's Harbour.
June	8.	Taking of Stores' Depot near Stoney Creek.
"	19.	Taking of Stores' Depot at Great Godus.
July	4.	Taking of a Post at Chippawa.
"	31.	Attack on Burlington Heights.
Sept.	29.	Attack on Odelltown.
Oct.	3.	Repulse at Four Corners.

1814

March	13.	Attack on Bartonville.
July	3.	Taking of Fort Erie.
"	5.	Attack on Fort Chippawa.
Sept.	17.	Engagement near Fort Erie.

THE RIGHT HON. SIR ROBERT BORDEN:

"We are all bound to serve the state . . . . To men of military age I make the appeal that they place themselves at the service of the state for military duty."

THE RIGHT HON. SIR WILFRID LAURIER:

"We have become a nation. It is the duty of every powerful nation to defend its territory."

THE RIGHT HON. W. F. MASSEY, Premier of New Zealand, said in Toronto, on 30th May, 1917:

"When the state is fighting for its existence the state is entitled to the services of every one of its citizens, and I don't believe it can be better provided for than by Universal Compulsory Military Training. In New Zealand it has proved a splendid success* as it has made it possible to have the whole manhood of the country (we exempt no one) qualified to take up arms in defence of the Empire. But, even if war were abolished compulsory military training for all men in the Empire would be an enormous physical benefit to the British race."

SIR ERIC DRUMMOND, Private Secretary to the Right Hon. A. J. Balfour, said at Toronto on 26th May, 1917.

"After the war I think myself there will be, throughout the British Empire, some arrangement for Universal Service, probably on the Swiss system. That system has not hurt the Swiss as an industrial nation. It has improved the Swiss people physically and in every way."

*New Zealand up to April had contributed 80,593 to the war. This in proportion to population would have meant some 550,000 from Canada. Their draft system is said to work very satisfactorily.

CANADA

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NATIONAL SERVICE

CHAPTER I

NATIONAL SPIRIT

"Oh, we are the men of the Northern zone,
Shall a bit be placed in our mouth?
If ever a Northern lost his throne,
Did the conqueror come from the South?
Nay, nay—and the answer blent
In chorus is Southward sent.
Since when has a Southerner's steel
Hewed out in the North a throne?
Since when has a Southerner placed his heel
On the men of the Northern zone?
Our hearts are free as the rivers that flow
To the seas where the North Star shines.
Our lives are free as the breezes that blow
Thro' the crests of our native pines.
We never will bend the knee,
We'll always and aye be free,
For liberty reigns in the land of the leal,
Our brothers are round her throne;
A Southerner never shall place his heel
On the men of the Northern zone!"

—*The Khan*

Thus sang our Northern, rugged rhymster, and the echo rings true, that no better material in men exists on God's earth than is contained within the far-flung bounds of Canada. But, oh, the pity of it,

that such material should be handicapped, and should have been handicapped, by, perhaps, the most expensive and ineffective military system of any civilised community in the world! It can be laid down as an axiom, which, for the benefit of my country, I shall endeavour to set forth in the following pages that, *without a basis of compulsion, and lacking the democratic principle of decentralised co-operation, an efficient and economical military system for Canada is impossible.*

With the ever present shadow of great ambitious powers, greedy for virgin resources, God grant that "The Khan" may be right, but let us not forget what is laid down in *Holy Writ* about a "strong man armed," and who will deny that the truths of the Bible will ring down through the ages to the end of all things?

The efficiency of a nation for defence is based upon the national spirit therein prevailing. If a basis of personal self-sacrifice for the good of the state, for the safety of the flag and country, is at the root of the national spirit, other things will follow; but if the matter of personal subordination and the cultivation of a wholesome discipline take second place to luxuries and licenses, and if the strenuous life, necessary to bring about the best conditions for national health and defence, is abandoned, then may the decadence of that people well be looked for. When everything connected with the preparation for defence of country is derided as waste of time and means, as has, unfortunately, been the prevailing view in Canada, satisfactory results

in morale, physique, and military knowledge become impossible. When the people at large think so little of preparedness that they will allow it to be the "plaything" of politicians and under the centralised control of one of them, the whole fabric of national defence is without a foundation.

A reasonable deduction from the situation, as it has been shown to exist at the time of penning these words, is that from a non-elastic and only partially trained militia of actually some 50,000, without a trained reserve, and whose system makes the development of practised leaders impossible, an army of some 400,000 has been raised for war against an experienced enemy. On the face of it this seems an impossibility, and so it is. The new force has not the organisation of the old, its training is very different, and there is much change in arms and equipment. It would sound like beginning to raise a force after war started, and so it was. How would it have been had the danger struck from another direction, and we should then have required more than double the 400,000 to feel that Canada was safe? Is not the deduction clear that, from a national defence point of view, we have been living in a fool's Paradise, and that both the exigencies of the moment and the safeguarding of our country in the future demand the immediate inauguration of a system of Universal Military Training and Service?

It is advisable for any patriotic Canadian who cares for the safety of his country, or, indeed, the future integrity of the British Empire, to take to

heart the lesson which is now being taught—for history repeats itself—and consider not only what is necessary to strengthen our hands and our arms at the present critical moment, but also what should be done to safeguard a future, the outcome of which no man can foresee. It will also be well worth his while to consider why there is such a marked difference in the military standards between a country where it is the duty of every citizen to prepare himself to defend his hearth and home, and one where it is purely a matter of voluntary choosing. Even when he will arrive at a general basis for comparison, as shown by the respective laws and customs, he will find that he has learned but half the tale, for behind it all lies the perforce slip-shod performance of the observances under a voluntary system, while crisp and thorough rendering of the strict letter of the law is the result of a patriotic universal service system.

Before giving some illustrations of national spirit and its effect on national safety, let me explain some general terms, to which naturally I shall be obliged to allude from time to time, and which are frequently made use of in the public press without the public at large thoroughly grasping their true significance.

Take such an expression as "Militarism!" What does it mean? Complete and permanent organisation of the whole people on a military basis, for military service is not militarism. The professionalising of a portion of the people, the creation of a military caste, is militarism. Militar-

ism exists much rather in the voluntary system, where the matter of pay is the factor of service, than in an obligatory system where duty to the nation and the purest kind of patriotism is the impelling influence.

The Prussian model of a great army of professional officers, or, on a lesser scale, the regular-army model of the British army, promotes what can properly be called militarism. But to say of the highly trained, yet industrious, peace-loving Swiss nation, that its system of universal compulsory military service makes for militarism is a statement utterly devoid of foundation. All the officers of the German army are professional soldiers, taught to look upon themselves as a superior and separate caste from the rest of the people. And in England the regular army, a permanent professional force, is open to the same charge.

President C. W. Eliot of Harvard University very correctly puts the matter, as it can be viewed by a lay mind, in saying, "The English army has always been—until 'Kitchener's army' was created—an army officered from the upper classes and recruited by voluntary enlistment from the lower. It has never been a popular or national army in the sense of Continental Europe, where conscription or universal military service has long prevailed."

But in Switzerland, go into a druggist's or a jeweller's, and in the one you may be waited upon by the commanding officer of an artillery regiment, or in the other by a smart young captain of an infantry company, who is the partner of his mother

in the business. In both cases the officers had first served as privates, and had gone up step by step to their present positions, as they proved competent. Is it likely that these men, busy in their civil occupations, pressed for time to attend the thorough military courses which they must take every now and then, are clamouring for war to give them promotion?[1] Such a thing is unthinkable to anyone who knows the situation and the people. The whole professional element of the 538,600 army of Switzerland is little more than 200, or about one-twentieth of that of the permanent militia of Canada.

Then again, one constantly hears and sees the terms "Conscription" and "Universal Military Service" used in all sorts of connections. Therefore, it would be better to make clear at the commencement what the difference between them is, for there is the greatest difference in the world. Conscription is unequal because it does not apply to all; therefore it is unfair and undemocratic. Universal military service applies equally to all; therefore it is fair and truly democratic.

Strictly defined, it might be laid down that the essential difference between universal military service and conscription is that in the former case all

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[1] So truly democratic is Switzerland that no distinctions are given for military or other service, nor are they allowed to be worn if given by a foreign country, and certainly Switzerland does not place the indignity on its militia service, nor on the soldier who has worked his way up from the bottom, by the creation of Honorary Colonels etc., galore. No one ever heard of an honorary anything in Switzerland's army.

The matter was aptly treated editorially by the *Toronto Evening Telegram* of 13th February last as follows;—"Canada is invited to pronounce the voluntary system of military service a failure on account of that system's tendency to produce *too many colonels* and *too few recruits*."

able-bodied males are liable to serve, and (where thoroughly administered) exemptions are confined to individual cases, such as only sons of widows, and judges, clergy, etc. The latter involves the choosing by lot of a regulated annual conscript contingent from amongst a considerably larger number of young men of military age, and the possibility of exemption on payment or on finding a substitute. Conscription has been almost universally abandoned. The name, however, seems to cling to the English-speaking world and is frequently applied in error to universal service. Conscription has inherited a bad name. In the old days drafts were necessary to fill up the regular army fighting abroad, and as voluntary enlistment did not suffice to fill up wastage, recourse was had to the draft, and men were balloted for. The "conscripts" thus taken, and their families, often had strong feelings against a system which took some and left others similarly situated. Thus, "give a dog a bad name" and put that name where it should not apply, and it needs a lot of explaining to convince people that it is not the same dog at all. Therefore the sooner the name "conscription" can be done away with, when applied to *Universal Service,* the better.

We come now to the consideration of another matter. It is often not clear to some people why Canadian militiamen should stand under the charge of being "mercenaries," and the mind is often confused as to the real difference that exists between say a soldier of France and a soldier of Canada. We know that in the old days bands of soldiers were

hired not only by individuals but by states to do their fighting, and that they were termed "mercenaries." Long years ago brave little Switzerland accomplished prodigies in hurling back her powerful neighbours and acquired such a reputation for her infantry that other nations, less sturdy but with more money, vied with one another in hiring her soldiery to fight for them. Then they were mercenaries. At the present time the law of Switzerland distinctly forbids such a thing. Her soldiers, like those of France, deem it a duty and an honour to bear arms for their country, which the law of their land makes an obligation. As this obligation applies to all, theirs is a Universal Military Service System, explained above, which is the antithesis of mercenary service.

Now, where the state places a charge on the individual, who is then obliged to do his duty in the defence of his country (and any money given him is not supposed to be pay for that service), a charge equally compelling comes upon the state and is assumed by it, not only to care for the soldier but also to look after those who may be dependent upon him for support. The following two clauses from the Swiss Military Law speak for themselves:

21. The Confederation assures soldiers against the monetary consequences of illness and accident. The application of this principle is regulated by the law on the assurance of soldiers against illness and accident.

22. Families, who fall into privation in consequence of the military service of their breadwinner, receive relief proportionate to their necessities; this relief must not be confounded with that of public charities.

And it should be remembered that in those countries where the obligation for service exists, those who are the first to come under it naturally have the least number of dependents. While on the other hand, unfortunately, a system on the mercenary basis too often fills the ranks with married men; this is alluded to more fully under the chapter on "Comparison and Cost."

At a meeting of the Dominion Grange (the great Farmers' organisation) a commanding officer of one of the most efficient cavalry regiments of the Canadian militia (Lieut.-Colonel J. Z. Fraser, 2nd Dragoons), who had been through every grade from and including a private in the ranks, made a very significant utterance. He said: "I have been a military man for nearly thirty years and I have observed that military and naval systems tend to debase the men and elevate the officers, and when you debase the men you destroy any nobility they have and any real spirit of patriotism they have. *I am opposed to paid militarism;* I believe in *universal service.* When this latter comes then militarism is banished." What does this mean? It means that the experience of an intelligent Canadian farmer has shown him that mercenary service is unsatisfactory, and, indeed, debasing.

It means that the voluntary system depends for its result on the expenditure of dollars, and that the militia force of Canada is a force of mercenaries. This may not be true in its entirety, for a large number of those belonging to the militia have joined it from personal interest in the work, be-

cause it is "in the blood," such as members of city regiments who do not draw their pay, giving it all into regimental funds, and therefore derive no pecuniary benefit from their service. They as a rule do their training at night in drill halls. Those, however, on the rural corps basis, who give up all their time for twelve days training in camps of instruction draw their pay, and it is not too much to say that the pay in most instances is the largest consideration for the service. I have no doubt that what was in Colonel Fraser's mind was that the men who were secured for service at the annual camps of the militia were, in the main, the men out of a job, and, in many rural corps, those from little villages who hung round taverns of unenviable reputation. It can therefore well be contended that a distinct leaven for bad and for degradation of the farmer's son was so often at work that grounds existed for Colonel Fraser's charge.

So evident has this been to myself—and it is an example of the experience of a militia officer—that four years previous to this quotation I had written, in an article read before the Canadian Military Institute on *Patriotic Military Service,* that "the Canadian system might not improperly be designated the 'dollar' system... The Militia Department has been obliged to increase the pay to fill up the ranks with 'patriots.' While Frenchmen draw one cent when in uniform, Canada has to adopt the 'dollar' basis to fill her ranks."[1]

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[1] A notice to be seen hanging in front of the recruiting office of an American Battalion in Toronto bears this out. It reads "The best paid army in the World."

If the weight of the dollar is necessary to draw men to military service under the voluntary system, and if in peace times it brings results indicated by Colonel Fraser, we may well turn to the example afforded by other countries where service is put on a standard of duty.

It is sometimes said, we think incorrectly, that the farmers as a class are opposed to military training. The rural portions of the population, except when influenced like Colonel Fraser, take perhaps more interest in annual military training than do any other class of people, even if they do not need the purely physical side of it as much as those who are town or city bred. The life in the country proper is comparatively lonely, and the descendants of those who met in days gone by, in the annual gathering of the old sedantary militia, remember their fathers or grandfathers telling with what pleasure they looked forward to the May muster, when they would meet together. Unquestionably the association with his fellows is good for a young man, and it is of benefit and interest to him to see other parts of the country, to which military instruction or manœuvres may take him. Further, no man can fail to be benefited by the discipline.

These short notes on militarism, conscription, universal military service, and mercenaries might be taken in the light of definitions of terms. This will perhaps make it somewhat easier for the reader in later chapters. In like manner some preliminary words on a few matters of basic importance may be advisable. One of these might be a definition of

the word "Preparedness," but the difficulty about this is that it is so new and so comprehensive that I do not feel competent to give it. Preparedness, so far as I am aware, is one of those uniquely comprehensive designations which our neighbours to the south have invented. It seems to me that it speaks for itself and means everything from a cartridge to a howitzer, from a pair of boots to an aeroplane, or from school-boy drill to command of an army corps. At any rate, there is little doubt about it in my mind that we in Canada need preparedness just as much as Uncle Sam, and that it is as well worth the consideration of our people as it is of his.

A very important matter, which appeals to many, comes to us in connection with the education of the youth. This is treated to some extent in the chapter on "Training for Boys." It might be well to note in a general way, at the outset of our consideration of this whole matter, that, generally speaking, obligation to military service, and the training demanded by the state in connection therewith, does not usually come into force until the person is actually taken into some part of the soldiery of the country for training or service. Generally the procedure is that the country endeavours to give all the voluntary training possible to its youth during school life. In some cases local provisions make this school training obligatory, and in some cases they do not. In some cases they have military drill and exercises, and in some cases there is nothing; but always the desire of the state is to have as much as

possible, though left, so far as the national government is concerned, on a voluntary basis.

An exception has been made in this under one flag alone, and that is our own flag. Australia and New Zealand, and to a certain extent South Africa, have inaugurated a new departure, and are making the experiment of commencing this national obligatory drill and military training at a very early age. In Australia and New Zealand, as will be seen by reference to their systems under "Military Systems," they have commenced this obligation at twelve years old. The process is gradual, and the requirements are light at the beginning, but these increase until the grown youth comes into the National Military System at 18 years of age; but the belief of the projectors, whose opinion Lord Kitchener endorsed, was that boys, loving this kind of work, will be so thoroughly grounded by the time they reach the citizen forces that a minimum amount of training will then enable them to be efficient soldiers.

Before reverting again to the further consideration of national spirit there are two bug-a-boos in Canada that are constantly—almost invariably—waved at anyone suggesting any form of universal military service, and with all confidence that unconditional surrender must forthwith greet their appearance. The first of these, and the greater, because it assumes the role of "master," is Labour, and the second is the government of the country. We are assured that neither the one nor the other will ever consent to any form of compulsion in the

matter of military service. Personally I don't believe this, and in the first place I would venture to address a word to "Labour"—and are we not all labourers for the land we love? Indeed, what I am saying is only to labourers who love their country and are loyal to it; to labourers who are not loyal and who do not care what flag floats over them, and whose only interest is a Union and not a Nation, these words are not addressed. Therefore, there will be few who would not be ready to give ear to them in any land over which flies the Union Jack, that emblem of fair play and liberty! I have served under the North Star and the Southern Cross with British citizen soldiers of every kind of trade and profession, and I have yet to find that Labour or "Ermine" have any advantage in their ardent patriotism for flag and country when they rub shoulders in the defence forces of their nation. We will, therefore, take it unquestionably for granted that Labour is loyal.

Now it is said that Labour does not want war. It wants peace, so that it can make money and enjoy itself on holidays. Who doesn't? No one wants war save perhaps the professional soldier who wishes for advancement in his profession. This doesn't apply at all to a national militia, to citizen-soldiers under a universal system—the same for all, Labour included as well as Ermine and "Imitation." But Labour says we want all wars to cease. Will Labour please read this chapter, the opening part of the chapter on "Mobilization" and also think over the quotations from Ruskin, Homer Lea,

Conan Doyle, and others, and then surely Labour will shake its head and think with General Leonard Wood, "It is a great deal better to get ready for war and not have war than it is to have war and not be ready for it," or agree with the great pro-consul Lord Milner that latent defence strength in a nation is the same as reserve capital in a safe financial institution, both absolutely necessary though perhaps unused.

But Labour complains "What about wealth?" Are you going to call up the man-strength and not lay obligation on the financial-strength? Surely nobody disputes Labour in this, and surely every government acts on the principle that, with due regard to the actual existing responsibilities of wealth (which sometimes are no small burden), it is just as much liable, when the honour of the flag is at stake, as is the man-power of the country.

I have conversed with Labour in Germany, in France, in Switzerland. I have met and talked with Argentines, Australians, New Zealanders, Japanese, Dutch, Belgians, and people from other lands where the principle of manhood's duty of defence is acknowledged and acted upon, and I have yet to discover a country where Labour is unhappy under the Universal System—under the true democratic system. If it were, the system would not last for a day in such ultra-democratic communities as Switzerland and Australia, in which latter, in spite of the recent referendum on foreign service, the people are practically a unit in the matter of a universal military service system for defence.

If you read this book you will find the immense advantage to Labour instanced here and there, time and again, in the matter of physical and technical education, care of those who may be dependent, and in other ways. Labour, intelligent and progressive, as it is in Canada, has only to understand the facts, and if they are not made clear in these pages, which is altogether too probable, then it is the duty of every patriotic Canadian to make them plain beyond peradventure.

Now, how about the other bug-a-boo, the government. I have much less patience with this one than with Labour, because the government ought to know better. Its members are open to all sources of information, and it is their business to find out all they can and make use of it. I venture to say that the meagre information in this book alone will convince any member of the government, if he is diligent enough to read it and honest enough to tell the truth about his convictions.

There can be no excuse for the government not having, long ago, sifted the facts and figures, obtainable by them officially on this subject from almost any point of the compass, and then, after deciding in favour of universal service, educating and convincing the people. When I allude to the government I do not do so in a party sense, as the government of Sir Robert Borden or the government of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, but to the government of the country which has allowed a shameful defence system to exist for many long years, the reversion of a splendid, sturdy plan practised and handed

down by our glorious forefathers, whose blood, spilt to save our country a hundred years ago, now cries shame on us for that we are weaklings; not weaklings on the plains of France and Flanders, but in allowing the unfair condition of voluntarism to exist in Canada.

The cruelty to the individual of the voluntary system, as compared with the system whereby the state provides as to where and when duty should call for action, is clearly brought home to those who read such letters as that of Margaret Grant to the press, in which is told a Canadian widowed mother's story of why she gave her only son. The voluntary system, in effect the government which is too weak to say "This and this class of men must serve their country," placed on the widow the dreadful responsibility of decision, and she says: "To none would I tell of the fierce battles I fought in my room at night, with no one but my pitying Maker to witness the conflict. One night I was lying on my bed, nearly crazed with the agony of trying to decide between injuring for life my boy's self-respect, and giving him up, perhaps to suffer, maybe to die—he, my only child, my all, my bonnie boy, who looked at me with his father's eyes. He of Gethsemane knows how hard it was! In the midnight silence of the room I distinctly heard my husband's voice say: 'Let the boy go, Annie. It will be well with him.' A quiet peace came to my troubled soul, and I slept." Men write, "I will not volunteer, but take

me, and take also the shirker who is waiting for my shoes."

And so it goes. What right has any form of government in any land to throw on an individual or a class the onus of choice of action in a matter of such vital importance as safety of flag and country? Any government which places this stigma on the self-respecting individuals in a community, or which allows it to rest on them, is unworthy of its trust.

We will now turn to the consideration of a national spirit, together with some of its far-reaching consequences. Only a very few of the nations will be referred to as examples of types, for there is so much other matter which ought to receive some attention in the discussion of this very comprehensive subject.

The most cherished possession of a nation is its national spirit—once the national spirit is gone the nation is lost. To stand still is impossible. No people can remain as it is where there is indifference to the matter of defence and convergence of interests with other nations. In his remarkable book, *The Valour of Ignorance,* Homer Lea, an American, says: "National existence is not a haphazard passage of a people from an unknown beginning to an unforeseen end. . . . Yet nations prefer to evade and perish rather than to master the single lesson taught by the washing away of those that have gone before them. In their indifference and in the valour of their ignorance they depart, together with their monuments and constitutions, their vanities and

gods." And again he says: "Whenever a nation becomes excessively opulent and arrogant, at the same time being without military power to defend its opulence or support its arrogance, it is in a dangerous position. Whenever the wealth and luxury of a nation stands in inverse ratio to its military strength, the hour of its desolation, if not at hand, approaches. When the opulence and unmartial qualities of one nation stand in inverse ratio to the poverty and the military prowess of another, while their expansion is convergent, there result those inevitable wars wherein the commercial nation collapses and departs from the activities of mankind forever."

Conan Doyle, in *The Last Galley,* a story on the fall of Carthage and the rise of Rome, says: "And they understood too late that it is the law of Heaven that the world is given to the hardy and to the self-denying, whilst he who would escape the duties of manhood will soon be stripped of the pride, the wealth, and the power which are the prizes manhood brings."

It will be remembered—going a step further—that so great a writer and thinker as Ruskin was so warm an advocate of the strenuous in nation-building, that he wrote: "We talk of peace and learning, and of peace and plenty, and of peace and civilisation, but I found that those were not the words which the muse of History coupled together; that on her lips the words were peace and sensuality, peace and selfishness, peace and death. I found, in brief, that all great nations learned their

truth of word and strength of thought in war; that they were nourished in war, and wasted in peace; trained in war, and betrayed in peace—in a word, that they were born in war, and expired in peace.'' Or in the words of the poet, Alexander Pope:

> ''Who thinks that fortune cannot change her mind
> Prepares a dreadful jest for all mankind,
> And who stands safest? Tell me, is it he
> That spreads and swells in puffed prosperity,
> Or, blessed with little, whose preventing care
> In peace provides fit arms against a war?''

The spirit of a people resulting from the system of military training and service in vogue in a country is remarkable. It is such a spirit of personal self-sacrifice as exists in the history of all great people, and which, at the time of the death of the late Emperor of Japan, led General Nogi and his noble wife to give up their lives to aid in perpetuating it in Japan. Baron Kikuchi, of the Imperial University of Japan, while on a visit here in 1910, delivered an address at the University of Toronto on ''The Japanese Spirit,'' which illustrated this characteristic, developed to such a remarkable degree in his people. That address almost prepared us for the remarkable deed of General Nogi and his wife, for the ''Japanese Spirit'' was defined by the lecturer as personal self-sacrifice for the benefit of the state, or reverence for the Imperial house or dynasty and for its ancestors, which reverence, through all the changes in that old and wonderful people, had been preserved unimpaired, and that the practical carrying out of this includes ''inuring

the body to hardships and privations and cultivating discipline, coolness, and self-control."

The results of this are aptly expressed by a very prominent American who, in recently advocating universal service as the basis of national unity and national defence, said: "The great and expanding Oriental Empire of Japan has developed an absolute application of the universal system to the salvation of her national life and the extension of her power and territory, until in the short space of half a century she has emerged from an inconsiderable isolation to a position commanding respect and fear." As an illustration, what can we say as to the spirit engendered by the Canadian voluntary and the Swiss universal service military systems respectively? Incidents which came under my personal observation might serve in a general way as an index. A few years ago the Sunday church parade at the annual camp of training at Niagara was witnessed by a handful of civilians. As we marched away to the martial strains of the military bands I overheard but one comment on the spirit and splendour of it all. A man lolling in his automobile turned to his friend and said: "A great big waste of money!"

Later on in the same summer I was in Switzerland. The daily papers for some time previous had been advertising "one franc (20c.) during the manœuvres." Soon after this, one of the papers presented its readers with a map of the territory where the manœuvres (the annual training) were to take place. These were my first indications of the inter-

est of the general public in the annual training of their soldiery. The training was that of two divisions, operating against one another. Each division was inspected beforehand at places some fifty miles apart as the crow flies. I was able to see one of their inspections. Special trains were run. Booths for refreshments were erected in the vicinity. The ground for the inspection and the subsequent march-past was roped off and surrounded with people, who formed an unbroken crowd for half a mile on each side of the route of the march-past. Special tickets were necessary for enclosures near the saluting point. The interest throughout evinced a people taking a keen pleasure and a great pride in a truly national militia, of which they felt that they were a part. This interest, this feeling of co-partnership, is not only noticeable on the part of the press and public, but in private life it is just as marked a feature. It is not in any sense what some people term militarism—the thirst for blood, the love of glitter and display, the pomp and frills and consequence of military organisation. None of that is ever in evidence in Switzerland. It is merely the potential power of defence of a patriotic people who have a long, much-cherished history, comprising many deeds of self-sacrifice and bravery. The defence system is taken as a matter of fact, a necessary and welcomed duty; it is treated in a purely business-like manner, and it is recognised as a splendid national training school, so much so that whenever a change of law requires more time to be

devoted to national military service it is carried by immense popular majorities.

Naturally, practical examples of the Swiss national spirit are also to be found in the chapter on Switzerland, but I will include here the forceful views of a Swiss officer, Colonel Favre, who was almost as well known in England as in Switzerland, as an outstanding authority on the military system of his country. He states: "In the old days, two centuries ago, armies were the scum of the population. By the beginning of last century things had begun to improve; but since the adoption of compulsory military service, which has drawn into the ranks every able-bodied man of the nation, the personnel has undergone a very considerable change. If we wish to counteract the evils inherent in a democracy by a system of national discipline we must make a beginning either at the school-boy's desk or at the parade ground. In no other way can a nation be taught self-control. Judging from the experience of Switzerland, we may safely say that compulsory service, besides being intrinsically sound and right, is beneficial to the country as a whole and to the individual man. If the moral stamina of a people will not bring them to make the necessary sacrifice for national safety, it is a clear proof that they have degenerated. A national army is, for good or evil, the national barometer. If the army does not prosper, it means that the country despairs of itself. Is it not well worth while, then, making an effort towards its salvation?"

On the one hand such is the spirit evolved by a

true democracy of service, engendered under the universal system in vogue in Switzerland; on the other hand, is not the spirit of North America—I fear not confined to the south of the 49th parallel—somewhat as indicated in a sermon by the Rev. M. Soares, Professor of Religious Education in the University of Chicago, when he said: "We teach our youth in America to be self-reliant and make their own way. They become self-sufficient and their attitude is to take orders from no man. But religion demands obedience. St. Paul has taught us that we are not our own, but bought with a price. He himself took pride in the title of 'Slave of God.' "

However true this may be there would certainly appear to be an awakening spirit in its movement towards preparedness in the land of the reverend gentleman. The national spirit which is impelling a great upheaval in the direction of preparedness in the United States has recently manifested itself in many ways in that country. Previous to the declaration of war the great parades and demonstrations which took place in the United States were no more pertinent than the extraordinarily strong and unanimous expressions of opinion of their leading men on the subject, contained in a large volume recently published by the Academy of Political Science of New York. These opinions are wonderfully strong and so numerous that it is impossible to give more than a general idea of their nature, and I shall give a few extracts in the chapter on "The United States and Preparedness."

As an indication of the trend of the public mind

recent utterances of two ex-presidents of the United States may well be taken. Ex-President Theodore Roosevelt has put himself on record on more than one occasion. He states: "I believe in universal service based upon universal training. I believe in this because I think it would be not only of incalculable benefit to the nation in the event of war, but of incalculable benefit to the individuals undergoing it, and therefore to the nation as a whole as regards the work of peace. The military tent, where boys sleep side by side, will rank next to the public school among the great agents of democracy."

Ex-President Taft stated in February of this year: "I believe the only policy we can pursue is to have it understood that every male who comes to manhood shall spend a certain amount of time in training against the time when he may be needed. Call it anything you like—military training, conscription, or what not—but it is necessary."

Then we have another "President"—Sam Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labour, who says: "We must have a preparation that means a comprehensive development of all the powers and resources of all our citizens. In Switzerland every man is a soldier—not necessarily to go to war—but he has the physical and manual training necessary to defend himself, his family and his country. Under that system the Swiss have developed a manhood, a character, that challenges the admiration of the world. We will be satisfied with nothing less in America."

So high-minded a ground does the United States

take, theoretically at all events, that the Secretary of War makes bold to state: "If the actual hour of trial ever comes, there must be no war stocks, no 'war brides,' nor war fortunes made out of the national danger. Nor must there be built up in America any interest which could be suspected of preparing to profit by the creation of a national emergency." The question which comes to our mind is, could not this gentleman be induced by our government to come to Canada, with power to act, if he is not needed in his own country?

And what of the spirit of France, of the motherland of the heroes of the Marne which settled the fate of the world, and of Joffre, Marshal of France, whose marvellous strategy and tactics brought about that victory, and of the brains that invented the submarine, the automobile, and the aeroplane? Think of the spirit of her men who with bravery and cheerfulness fight for honour and freedom as their remuneration, and one cent a day for tobacco! Mr. Levisse Ernest, a great French historian, lecturing at Saint-Cyr in 1898, said something in favour of retaining this national spirit: "When a society, losing interest in the army, disdains the military profession as gross, and trusts its defence to mercenaries and foreigners, its punishment may come soon or late, but it comes surely. In the cities and castles of Gaul, in the fifth century, lived men of culture and distinction, lovers of the arts and of letters. They tasted the delights of the *pax romanica*—the 'peace of Rome.' Then the barbarians came; and

some thousands of men were enough to occupy Gaul —for the soldiers of Clovis were far from numerous. These barbarians and their kings seemed coarse and clumsy folk to the Gallo-Romans, who made fun of their great height, their speech, their raucous songs, and their breath that stunk of garlic. But the Gallo-Roman senators became subjects and courtiers of the Frankish, Burgundian, and Visigothic kings, and saluted them as 'excellency' and 'majesty.' ''

The modern day condition in contrast is well set forth by Mr. Charles Dawburn, a clever English journalist who lived for some years in Paris, and who writes in a work which he recently published: ''We must recognise, even if we be Pacifists—conscious to the full of the horrors and absurdities of war—that the military regime has done this much good to France, that it has brought home to the people the wondrous lesson which we may call *la charge de la communauté.* Whenever the man in the street sees the regiment go by he must recognise it as the embodiment of the national spirit, the symbol of self-sacrifice, calling upon him, if need be, to leave his fire-side and his personal affairs to defend the national soil. He realises the value of such a lesson to people given up, as modern communities are, to an all-absorbing interest in the accumulation of the *bien être* (the almighty dollar). He realises that he is part of a great defensive army which is bound to risk its life and give its physical and mental best to the protection of the country against the invader. These things have an estimable influ-

ence upon the formation of the national character. They replace Jingoism by a practical patriotism, and they make each man conscious that in his person is some portion of the national flag, some intimate, integral part of the great national existence. . . . . These hardships, if they are hardships in the real sense, have wrought an indefinite physical good to the nation.''

A striking example of the influence of this spirit of the French is given in the utterances of the Director-General of National Service, a well-known and brilliant Canadian politician, Mr. R. B. Bennett, M.P., of Calgary, who visited the battle-line in France and Flanders with the Premier, Sir Robert Borden, in 1915, and on his return, at a great meeting held in the Arena at Toronto on the 27th of September, 1915, stated: ''What is democracy? It has been called 'equality of opportunity.' Now it is 'equality of service: equality of responsibility.' What is the supreme duty that every man owes to the state? If the state enables you to live in safety, what are you going to give the state? They talk to you about conscription, and say to you, 'conscription is not possible in this democracy'—but don't ever believe that universal service is not compatible with this democracy.'' Mr. Bennett then told the meeting of conditions as he had found them in France: how it was possible to stand in the market place and look everywhere along the streets without seeing one man of military age who was not in uniform, concluding: ''and that is compatible with what I believe to be the freest democracy in the

world. I am not here to plead conscription, but I do want you to think of the meaning wrapped up in that one sentence—*'equality of opportunity means equality of service.'* ''

Again it is pointed out by a U. S. officer of high rank that in France a national army exists solely for the defence of the country, the maintenance of its rights, and the protection of its honour. It is important to bear this in mind, for although France is, and has been for years, one of the great military states, yet under no circumstances can it be charged with militarism. . . . . The French army is of the people, by the people, and for the people, and is therefore, held in affection by the people. The example of France shows us that the maintenance of great forces for reasons understood by the people and by them approved, is compatible with the highest ideals of personal liberty, may be the sole condition under which these ideals shall persist. England's example at least suggests the distress that may overwhelm us if we neglect the conditions. It is for us to choose. Of one thing we may be certain; it takes two to keep peace; liberty is ours only so long as we are willing and prepared to fight for it.

An incident, told by an officer, shows how democratic a universal service system can be: ''At the French manœuvres we were riding into a village one evening with an officer of the general staff who was of the old aristocracy. There was a peasant standing beside the road, and when the officer saw him he jumped off his horse and they embraced.

Then he turned to us and said, 'This man and I were together during our period of obligatory service in the ranks. *He and I are of the same class.* All the other men of our class in the vicinity are coming in to-night and we are going to have a reunion.' He and I are of the same class! That is, they had been called to service at the same time and had served together for two years with the same object—to prepare themselves to defend their country in time of need. To-day I know that one of them is doing it, and I am sure the other is, if he isn't dead."

Now, what of the appeals of great British statesmen for the spirit of self-sacrifice: properly speaking, for national compulsion?

Mr. Asquith—when Premier—said: "Remember your past. Think of the villages and the mountains which in the old days were the shelter and the recruiting ground of your forefathers in the struggles which adorn and glorify your annals, and leave to your children the riches of the memory of fathers who in a great cause put self-sacrifice before ease, and honour above life itself." Lloyd George ended a striking appeal on September 19th, 1914, to his fellow-countrymen of Wales, in the following telling words: "I envy you young people your opportunity. They have put up the age limit for the army, but I am sorry to say I have marched a good many years even beyond that. It is a great opportunity, an opportunity that only comes once in many centuries to the children of men. For most generations sacrifice comes in drab and weariness of spirit. It

comes to you to-day, and it comes to-day to us all, in the form of the glow and thrill of a great movement for liberty, that impels millions throughout Europe to the same noble end. It is a great war for the emancipation of Europe from the thraldom of a military caste which has thrown its shadows upon two generations of men, and is now plunging the world into a welter of bloodshed and death. Some have already given their lives. There are some who have given more than their own lives; they have given the lives of those who are dear to them. I honour their courage, and may God be their comfort and their strength. But their reward is at hand; those who have fallen have died consecrated deaths. They have taken their part in the making of a new Europe—a new world. I can see signs of its coming in the glare of the battlefield. The people will gain more by this struggle in all lands than they comprehend at the present moment. It is true they will be free of the greatest menace to their freedom. That is not all. There is something infinitely greater and more enduring which is emerging already out of this great conflict—a new patriotism, richer, nobler, and more exalted than the old. I see amongst all classes, high and low, shedding themselves of selfishness, a new recognition that the honour of the country does not depend merely on the maintenance of its glory in the stricken field, but also in protecting its homes from distress. It is bringing a new outlook for all classes. The *great flood of luxury and sloth which had submerged the land is receding, and a new Britain is appear-*

ing. We can see for the first time the fundamental things that matter in life, and that have been obscured from our vision by the tropical growth of prosperity.

"May I tell you in a simple parable what I think this war is doing for us? I know a valley in North Wales, between the mountains and the sea. It is a beautiful valley, snug, comfortable, sheltered by the mountains from all the bitter blasts. But it is very enervating, and I remember how the boys were in the habit of climbing the hill above the village to have a glimpse of the great mountains in the distance and to be stimulated and freshened by the breezes, which came from the hilltops and by the great spectacle of their grandeur. We have been living in a sheltered valley for generations. We have been too comfortable and too indulgent, many, perhaps, too selfish, and the stern hand of fate has scourged us to an elevation where we can see the *great everlasting things that matter for a nation*— the great peaks we had forgotten, of *Honour, Duty, Patriotism,* and, clad in glittering white, the great pinnacle of *Sacrifice* pointing like a rugged finger to Heaven. We shall descend into the valleys again; but as long as the men and women of this generation last, they will carry in their hearts the image of those great mountain peaks whose foundations are not shaken, though Europe rock and sway in the convulsions of a great war."

Naturally, the appeal I would make is for the adoption of universal military training and service in the certain belief that it will bring about a new

and better national spirit. Indeed, in a sense we have not yet waked up to a national spirit at all, at least to one worthy of the name. The national spirit connected with universal service is country before individual, others before self, sacrifice before luxury, liberty before license. No one can say that the germs of an exalted type of national spirit do not exist in Canada, but the cold dead air of *indifference* has kept them dormant. To be worth anything national spirit must mean national organisation, and without this latter, based on a whole-souled universal obligation to training and service, no people will voluntarily and automatically distribute their powers to the best uses for the safety of their flag and country.

CHAPTER II

MOBILISATION

"They say that 'war is hell,' 'the great accursed,'
'The sin impossible to be forgiven';
Yet I can look beyond it at its worst
And still find blue in Heaven.

"And as I note how nobly natures form
Under the war's red vein, I deem it true,
That He who made the earthquake and the storm
Perchance makes battles, too.

"The life He loves is not the life of span
Abbreviated by each passing breath;
It is the true humanity of man
Victorious over death."

The Right Rev. W. Alexander, D.D.

Sun-Tzu, a Chinese, wrote on "The Art of War," six hundred years before Christ. "The art of war teaches us to rely not on the likelihood of the enemy not coming, but on our own readiness to receive him; not on the chance of his not attacking us, but rather on the fact that we have made our position unassailable."

He would be a bold man who will say that the outbreak of the Great War in 1914 found Canada prepared. Lulled into a coma of self-satisfaction by statements that all the conditions for national safety existed, that all was "lovely"; that we had the best of everything, arms, equipment, organisa-

tion, etc., that we were the best in the world in shooting and in everything else, the public had good reason for not bothering their heads, for how could they know it was "the valour of ignorance"? Incredible as it may seem, most of them don't know it yet! The public was led into the belief that to have one division mobilised and equipped in six weeks, and trained and in France in six months was a thing wonderful. For a creation perhaps so, but what about it as a condition of preparedness for a people of over seven millions? It has already been pointed out that Switzerland with half our population had six divisions and nearly twice as many other troops ready for battle in three days. But the soporific influences have been so complete with us that one of our well-known journalists actually stated in all seriousness in a speech at a public function, even after "the marvel of the Marne," that had the Germans realised that Canada would take an active part in the war there would have been no war!

We were not prepared in 1914. Surely it is wicked of a people to be unprepared! Surely it is madness to say that because peace is the most desirable condition, it therefore must prevail! War and bloodshed are horrible, but so it may be said of death and disease. The advance of science lessens the ravages of disease, and improvement in the machinery of war renders it so expensive that it may occur less and less frequently, but both disease and war are inevitable. Nature seems to regulate that the world shall not be over-run with one species; or why is not all available space crowded with

rabbits, the earth covered with quail, or the grass country as alive with cattle as prospectuses for ranching companies would foreshadow? When we conquer one malady another will appear; and with man nature may ordain that if it is not the body, some subtle brain disease will under universal peace conditions, exceed the ravages of war in keeping the increase of his kind within bounds. Both in war and in peace, so long as man is man, the weak will go to the wall. Just as surely, so long as animal is animal, when the lion lies down with the lamb it will only be when the lamb is inside the lion. The spirit of competition is growing instead of dying; we see evolving every day greater states and greater trusts. In state and commerce absorption is the key-note of advancement. The weak goes to the wall in commerce and disease. So in war.

Lord Milner brought out splendidly the real meaning of preparedness when, speaking in Vancouver, he said:

"The power of fighting exercises at once slow, decisive influence on the history of the world. It is like the cash reserve of some great, solvent bank. How often is it necessary actually to disburse those millions, the existence of which in the background nevertheless affects the bank and everybody who deals with it all the time? It is credit that determines the power and influence of nations, just as it does the fate of any business. Credit in business rests ultimately on the possession or command of cash, though the owners never actually have to produce it. And so the influence and authority of a

nation, its power to defend its rightful interests, depend ultimately on that fighting strength in war, which it nevertheless may never be called upon to use."

The study of both biology and history show that the weak go to the wall. It always has been and always will be "the survival of the fittest." President Eliot of Harvard University has recently thus alluded to the matter: "A few philanthropists believe the world would get on better if there were no armies and navies and no use of force to resist wrongdoers; but non-resistance seems to almost everybody an impracticable international policy at mankind's actual state of progress. The nations have not yet come into Emerson's 'region of holiness' where passion passes from them. On the contrary, never before was outrageous violence so rife in the world, and resistance to it by force so indispensable. The policy of non-resistance is nowhere applied to burglars, murderers, or maniacs. No more can it be applied to Europe, in full view of invasions of Belgium and Serbia, Armenian massacres, and the sudden sinking of passenger steamers, merchantmen, and fishermen. Non-resistance is an admirable moral goal; but reaching it seems at the present day as far off as when Buddha taught twenty-five hundred years ago, that the use of force was never justifiable or even expedient."

A speech of Lord Roberts in the House of Lords in 1907 will be looked back to as an inspired appeal for a Canadian spirit of preparedness. The illustrious soldier said in the course of his speech:

"But, my Lords, in considering the liabilities of the Empire as a continental empire, we cannot leave out of account the most extensive and the most open of all our frontiers—the frontier of Canada. It may be said that any danger in that quarter is excluded by the friendly relations which exist—and, as I rejoice to think, tend to grow more and more cordial—with the United States of America. But, in considering the problem of national existence, we have to take account of every possibility, however unpleasant and however seemingly remote. Every other nation does it. We do it ourselves where the navy is concerned. Is there anyone who would venture to suggest that in estimating our naval requirements we should take no account of the navy of the United States, or avoid all reference to the subject as offensive to a kindred and friendly nation?

"But, my Lords, I will go even further. If we are continually comparing our resources quite openly and unreservedly with those of other powers, however friendly, when it is a question of such vital importance to us as the defence of these islands by sea, or the defence of India by land, can we be silent about the defence of Canada without inevitably conveying to Canadians the impression that we do not consider the defence of Canada a matter of vital importance? Will they not construe our silence as implying that we do not really regard Canada as an essential and indispensable portion of the Empire, and that we do not mean to throw our whole heart and our whole strength into her defence if the need should arise? Surely, my Lords,

if there are any nations to whom we cannot afford to give ground for offence, they are the nations within the Empire. But how could we offend them more deeply than by refusing even to discuss questions that are matters of life and death to them, just as the naval question is a matter of life and death to us?"

The marvel of a people organised for the defence of their beloved country could only be seen under a serious threat of war and only appreciated to the full by being with them at the time. Talk of a "national spirit." One does not know what it means until a nation is seen with its back against the wall before a peril deadly to its existence! Never have I felt such pride in Canada as when, without bluster or comment, our Parliament answered Cleveland's Venezuela ultimatum to the Motherland with a vote of millions for rifles, and this in the face of a total lack of national organisation on our part. And never have I felt more sickly shame than when I read in the public press that a young man in England was granted exemption from liability to serve his flag because he was a Canadian.

A very different state of affairs existed in little Switzerland on July 31st, 1914. It was my fortune, in my great misfortune of inability to be at home, to be in Switzerland at that time. The conditions as they existed there and the wonderful ease and rapidity of mobilisation of the nation, men, animals, vehicles (including automobiles), railways, supplies and merchandise of all sorts seem to me

so well worthy of telling to my countrymen that I reproduce here notes I made at the time:

Interlaken, Switzerland, August 7th, 1914.—The mobilisation of Switzerland's army is complete and half a million soldiers are in their allotted places for the defence of their beloved country should it be necessary. Just a week ago to-day the government, appreciating the seriousness of the outlook, though war had not yet been declared between any of the great powers, issued a proclamation of "Standing Picket" (Picket-Stellung) of the Swiss army. This notice embodies articles 199, 200, 213, and 214 of the Swiss Military Law, and under them every soldier is to be ready for further orders and cannot leave the country without special permission; all exportations of horses, mules, and vehicles is forbidden, and no one can dispose of those in his possession; and the communes immediately proceed to revise their horse and wagon lists. The necessary units of the Landsturm (second reserve, 40 to 48 years of age) were ordered for the service of observation of the frontier and to guard the lines of communication.

On the evening of July 31st a large placard was posted up in the commune (the municipal division of a Canton) where I happened to be, as follows: "Standing Picket in the whole Swiss army. Elite, Landwehr, and Landsturm. Moreover, those who have to look after personal mobilisation, territorial lines of communication, and railway. All soldiers must be ready to go at once to their headquarters as soon as an order comes. Interlaken,

31st July, 1914. 'Federal Military Department and Commune of Interlaken.' "

This order was also read at different places throughout the commune by an official, preceded by two or three drummers to call attention.

Early next morning, August 1st, the roads leading to the field behind the schoolhouse were alive with led horses and a certain number of vehicles. At 7 o'clock the checking over of a clearly written list began. The list of owners' names was spread on a table and checked by a commune official, while the animals were inspected by another official, who suggested a note as to their suitability for service and to which branch they might be posted. Whenever a man buys a horse in Switzerland he must report the same to his commune, as he is obliged to produce it for service in time of war, and also bring it twice a year for inspection, as well as on an occasion such as this.

Later on in the morning Landsturm, for the lines of communication and sentry observation on the frontier, were to be seen coming from their homes in the mountain hamlets. Here an armed man, with full kit and two days' food, was to be seen walking along the sidewalk holding his little boy by the hand, while his wife and a little girl followed. Again the beat of a drum is heard, and a little group of a dozen soldiers march behind it towards the station, all in full marching order, with rifle slung over the shoulder. They are followed by boys pushing four baby carriages containing some knapsacks, etc., and a woman walking along-

side. But woe betide the enemy that comes within effective range of these veterans of the Swiss army, for with seasoned nerve and practised eye, from the time they commenced their recruit training more than 20 years ago, they can tell where every shot from their trusted rifle should go!

The same day again another big poster, and another beating of drums and official proclamation, "War mobilisation, 3rd August, 1st mobilisation. All divisions, fortress garrisons, all army troops of the Elite and Landwehr; all the special troops of the Landsturm are called out. Every commune must furnish horses and wagons at the place of inspection, in accordance with the order concerning furnishing of horses. 'Swiss Military Department, de Coppet.' "

Attached to this large poster a small one was affixed later: "The exact time and place for the mobilisation will be put up at the Town Hall of Interlaken. 'The Commune Interlaken.' "

Next morning, August 2nd, at the Town Hall there were two large printed sheets setting forth in one the mobilisation place and day of mobilisation (1st, 2nd, or 3rd days, viz., Monday, Aug. 3rd; Tuesday, Aug. 4th; and Wednesday, Aug. 5th) for troops of each division (1st to 6th) of the Elite. The other sheet had the same information for all the Landwehr and the special troops of the Landsturm. The other men of the Landsturm, notably those of the complementary services (12 classes; pioneers, cyclists and motorists, guides and porters, electricians, signallers, artisans, medical-per-

sonnel, bakers, butchers, storemen, wagoners, and clerks) were not called out.

Lastly as regards mobilisation notices. Early on Monday morning, August 3rd, a large poster affixed outside the post-office showed every troop train from every place for the three mobilisation days, the last day being coloured red.

At 9 o'clock on Tuesday morning, August 4th, I was present at Thun at the mobilisation of an infantry brigade. Before that hour, by every train and from all directions, armed men in full marching order were to be seen streaming towards the place of assembly. Rallying places for the brigade staff, for the regimental staff and for each battalion were clearly marked. Within five minutes from the hour set—9 a.m.—the captain of each company was having his roll called, to which 214 officers, N.C.O.'s and men answered. A Swiss infantry regiment (two battalions) numbers 2,797, with 45 saddle horses, and an infantry brigade 5,608, with 100 saddle horses.

Not far from the mobilising infantry the horses from the communes were being inspected and classified. There was a stretched rope for each separate commune, with its name written on a board at the end near the road. About a dozen rows stretched one after the other, and some distance below the last was found one for rejected horses.

The commune list, with the observations made at the commune inspection, is placed before a valuing commission, who accept or reject the horse and place a value upon it in case it is killed. The maxi-

mum value put on a saddle horse is $360.00 and on a team horse $240.00. A dollar a day is paid the owner at first, but this is decreased from time to time as the period of service grows longer. Accepted horses are then led to another commission which classifies them, "officers," "battery," "train," etc., and they are led to lines marked accordingly.

This inspection of commune horses lasted from Tuesday to Friday, four days, but long before it was through most of the regiments were at their posts on or near the frontier, and Switzerland was the first country to finish mobilization.

With regard to horses it might be added that this commune horse mobilisation has nothing to do with the cavalry horses, other than to provide spare horses at depots for the same, every cavalry man having his own horse at his home and riding it to mobilization. Besides these cavalry horses and some 850 for officers at the Horse Regie, there are some 120,000 now taken over from owners for artillery, transport, etc., and to form a reserve, and these reserve horses are looked after by reserve (Landwehr) cavalry. For example, this place is a depot, and some 250 reserve horses are billeted about and looked after by a squadron of Landwehr dragoons who are only a reserve without horses, the Elite (or active) cavalry alone being horsed in the Swiss system.

A more matter-of-fact proceeding than this Swiss mobilisation it would be difficult to conceive, showing the great value of their mode of training, which is made to resemble active service in the field

as closely as possible. No sign of excitement or confusion is anywhere evident. The conversion of a people into an army has taken place in three days, and in a great emergency could be done in about half the time. Every town, village, and hamlet is like a "deserted village," almost manless and horseless. There is a deadly quiet everywhere.

It should be added that this army of about 500,000 strong, from a population one-half of that of Canada, is a force that will not be held lightly by even the great powers, for they know it is well trained, armed, equipped and organised, composed of the best rifle shots in the world, and that behind all that lies a spirit of the highest type of patriotism, and a determination to be wiped out rather than that any invader, be he who he may, should get a foot-hold on the soil which is rich with the blood their ancestors shed in defence of Swiss nationality.

Vevey, Switzerland, May 10th, 1915—No doubt the people of Canada have learned much, and thought more than they ever did before, of the vital importance to the country of an effective system of defence. By effective, I mean one that will not only furnish a force sufficiently large for national safety (in the light of modern requirements) in the shortest possible space of time, properly armed, equipped, organised, and trained, under competent leaders, but also one which provides, moreover, ample reserves of horses, supplies, arms, and munitions; with adequate facilities for manufacturing the last

two. Also, the cost of which shall not be excessive, and well within the means of the people.

Assuming this frame of mind to exist at last, it is possible that the amplifications of the general statements I have already made may interest an increasing number of my fellow-countrymen.

First, I might recall the fact that in the Swiss army the "Elite" is composed of young men who, having been accepted, serve from the age of 20 to 32. The "Landwehr" serve from 33 to 40, and the "Landsturm" serve from 41 to the end of their 48th year. The men of the Elite pass into the Landwehr and the latter into the Landsturm; therefore all are trained men, and in war time they would pass in the reverse order to fill up deficiencies. There are, moreover, a large number of men who are not quite up to the physical standard in some respect, but are considered best adapted for a special class of service, termed "complementary services." Men are recruited at 18 years of age. They are classed in one of three categories: men fit to serve, men fit for the complementary services, and men unfit to serve. The latter two classes pay the military tax. The complementary services cover, according to the needs of the army and during active service, pioneer, medical, commissariat, intelligence, and transport work. They receive no instruction, their civil vocations giving them the requisite knowledge for their army work.

As an example of available numbers of above-mentioned military classes in Switzerland (with a population of some 3,800,000) on the 1st of Janu-

ary, 1912, there were: Elite 143,851, Landwehr 69,575, Landsturm (about) 70,000, complementary services 207,004. Total, 490,430.

It will now be better understood when I recall that the first step taken in Switzerland was (on July 31st) to put the whole army on "standing picket," and to call out necessary units of the Landsturm for the service of frontier observation and guarding ways of communication (railways, etc.). Numbers very naturally are not given out, but from the battalions called out for this purpose, as given in the local press for one Canton, it may be assumed that at least some 51,300 Landsturm were under arms. In like manner the exact figures of the troops which mobilised on the 3rd, 4th, and 5th of August, are not yet obtainable, except by calculating them from the war mobilisation posters, which were affixed to the official notice boards of every commune. These were two sheets, one containing the troops in detail of the 6 divisions (four of them with mountain troops), the garrisons of the two fortifications, and the army troops of the Elite. The other sheet contained the army troops of the Landwehr, the location of the various depots, and the special troops of the Landsturm.

A Swiss division (without mountain troops) consists of Divisional Staff, three brigades of infantry, one cyclist company, one "groupe" (three companies) of infantry machine guns; one "groupe" (two squadrons) of "guides" (cavalry); one brigade of artillery (48 field guns and eight howitzers); one divisional (ammunition)

park (of two ammunition groupes and one howitzer ammunition company); one battalion of sappers; one bridging train; one telegraph company; one divisional medical "groupe" (of six companies); one supply "groupe" (of two companies).

The standard total strength of a Swiss division is therefore 22,621, with 1,211 riding horses, 3,768 draught horses, 1,123 vehicles, 8 motor cars, and 24 motor tractors. One division with mountain troops has about 1,000 more men, and over 1,000 pack animals.

The following may be considered as fairly well representing the army which took the field in August, 1914:

		Guns	Officers and Men	Horses and Mules	Vehicles	Autos	Motor Tractors
Elite	Army Staff	....	189	132	15	12	
	1st Division (with mountain troops)	64	23,097	6,195	1,122	9	24
	2nd " (without mountain troops)	56	23,062	4,950	1,103	9	24
	3rd " (with mountain troops)	64	23,386	6,020	1,094	9	24
	4th " (without mountain troops)	56	21,836	4,917	1,095	9	24
	5th " (with mountain troops)	64	25,085	6,174	1,106	9	24
	6th " (with mountain troops)	64	24,231	6,289	1,094	9	24
Elite and Landwehr	Fortress Troops (about)	?	30,000	5,000	1,100	9	24
	Army Troops—Elite	48	16,576	7,424	806	12	12
	Army Troops—Landwehr	....	74,148	8,742	2,782	6	
Landsturm	Landsturm Infantry (at least)	....	51,300				
	Landsturm Special Troops	....	18,700				
	Under Arms—Total	416	331,610	55,843	11,317	93	180
Compt. Servlces	Complementary Services (Uncalled)	....	207,000	64,158 Reserve	?	?	?
	Total Army Available	....	538,610	120,001	?	?	?

The guns mentioned consist of 288 field guns, 48 howitzers, 32 mountain guns, and 48 heavy guns. Also a minimum of 156 infantry and 64 cavalry machine guns, a total of 220, were included in the mobilisation.

It might be stated that the above-mentioned total under arms was in the field at the end of the first three days, and the last two days of the five days for mobilisation completed the examination of reserve horses and the mobilisation of the veterinary hospital staff.

The Swiss law provides that if more than 2,000 troops are called out, for over three weeks, Parliament must be assembled; also that, in case of war, that body chooses a general to command the army, there being otherwise no higher rank than colonel. On August 3rd, a general was thus selected, and he took over command of the army and control of the railways. Most of the Landsturm was soon released, and, after important defence work and posts of observation had been constructed all along the frontiers, other portions of the army were also allowed to go to their homes, ready to be called out again at a moment's notice. Since the end of October, 1914, some of the divisions and other troops have been relieved from time to time, then called out again for training and manœuvres, and, as a Swiss recently said, they are now *à la hauteur,* some of them having shown their condition by a march across Switzerland at a rate of over 30 miles a day.

For the first five months of the war, Switzerland

spent about $22,000,000 for mobilisation and on military expenditure. From August 1st on, the contrast between the Canadian and Swiss press has been very marked. The former teem with military preparations, new corps, recruiting, home guards, rifle clubs, municipal and private grants for equipment, etc. And not a word of anything of this kind in any of the Swiss papers! Had they lost their patriotism or stamina? The truth was that Switzerland was ready, men, supplies, organisation, leaders, aviation, everything. The army was in the field, and every able-bodied man in the country, up to 48 years of age, would be in his allotted place within a few hours if called upon. Their military training in times of peace had been for war, so when a grave danger of war was at the door, the people became an army without outward sign of anything like excitement or confusion. Their system was automatic and complete.

Why have I written all the foregoing about a small country foreign to Canadians? I do not know that there is any particular affinity between the two, other than there exists in both a wholesome, democratic form of local self-government in civil affairs. The reason, however, that this information should interest Canadians is because it gives an example of what can be done in a country where the democratic form of administration is carried into the military domain, without the slightest trace of militarism. The Swiss decentralised, universal-military-service system is the antithesis of the Cana-

dian centralised, autocratic, voluntary-military-service system. And that is one reason why in 1912, as an example, the cost per militiaman was for Canada $141.67, and for Switzerland (including Cantonal expenses) $15.65.

Glorious heroism has shown that *we have the right sort of men,* but comparison shows that *we have the wrong sort of military system.*

Two and a half years have gone since the first of the notes just mentioned were recorded, and where are we in Canada, compared with Switzerland? Surely the two most striking facts that come to us are, firstly, that the national organisation of Switzerland for defence was so complete and thorough that she is still at peace; and secondly, that practically without expense she, with half our population, had in the field, in as many days, as great a force as we, not having national organisation, have taken years to accomplish by the weight of the dollar, lavishly squandered. From the above it will be realised that the statement appearing in the press from time to time, that certain divisions have been called out in Switzerland for the first time, owing to fear of one or other of her neighbours, is an error, for they were all called out at first and then have been relieved in turns.

The Swiss are pleased and proud of their complete mobilisation, and a former officer of that country and now an American citizen gives the following interesting description:

"The government of the Swiss Republic, watchful and aware of the difficulty presented by the Aus-

trian ultimatum to Serbia on July 23rd, 1914, decided upon the most momentous step they had taken in many a decade—the complete mobilisation of the national forces. The decree of mobilisation was published on August 1st, our national holiday, on which we celebrate in our simple way the anniversary of that first meeting of representatives of the small mountain Cantons of Uri, Schwyz, and Unterwalden in 1291, for formation of an alliance for the defence of their rights and preservation of their liberties. On this first Saturday of August, 1914, every man up to the age of forty-eight, who had ever had military training and was enrolled in a unit of the army, was called out for Monday morning, August 3rd, at 9 o'clock. Even on the same day (August 1st) the local Landsturm—that is, the older men not members of any troop in the army, and the youths of sixteen to nineteen, who had undergone rudimentary training with the rifle—were mobilised for the protection of railroad tunnels, bridges, stations, and at once took over these guard duties.

"On August 2nd, the railroads of the country were still open for civilian travel. All the soldiers and officers who lived away from their appointed places of assembling returned to their homes, and on Monday morning at 9 o'clock everybody was at his post. From the distant *chalets* in the high mountains, from the farms on the creeks and in the level lands, from the factories and workshops, from the houses of the wealthy and the dwellings of the poor, thousands upon thousands poured out to the

public places of the little towns or to some meadow in a village where they knew they had to assemble. Each one was armed and equipped, ready from head to foot. At the same time the horses and wagons, which even in peace time in Switzerland are registered for just such an emergency and for nothing else, were brought out, examined, and taken over by committees of experts, former cavalry officers and veterinary surgeons, appointed beforehand for that purpose. The supernumerary horses went into horse depots, to be immediately available for use in the army and to replace those used up.

"After the assemblage was completed, concentration of the smaller units (battalions of infantry, batteries of artillery, squadrons of cavalry) into larger units (brigades, divisions, and army corps), began on the same day. The railroads stopped for civilian travel and transportation, and completed the work of mobilisation by carrying to the exposed posts on the frontier, on time tables long before prepared by the general staff, the army fully organised, equipped, and officered from the highest command down to the men in the ranks. The work of putting them into a state of defence by building observation towers, digging trenches, executing field fortifications, began at once. At some places the building of new roads or the enlarging of old ones was undertaken by the soldiers, obstacles to the defence were removed, at one place even a forest was cut down—all this on plans and orders long before prepared.

"In the meantime our powerful neighbours who

were to enter the war themselves as belligerents had started their mobilisation also, but ours was completed before theirs, and we know of proclamations posted in parts of Southern Germany, where a surprise attack through Swiss territory from France was possible, telling the people that such need not be feared, for the Swiss army was quite ready to prevent such a surprise.

"The success of the mobilisation was thus complete. In forty-eight hours the full strength of the army had been assembled and transported with all the reserves, all the equipment, all the horses, to the full number of three hundred thousand men. This saved the country."

It would hardly be proper not to include in the description of war mobilisation, as seen in an organised country such as Switzerland, the matter of organisation in connection with material resources. One is in no way surprised to see the man-power and even the horse-power of a country under universal military service disposed of in a complete and orderly manner, but what struck me personally as the most extraordinary thing, and what was so different from what we have even been accustomed to in Canada, was to find that everything material which could aid in the defence of a country was automatically controlled by the government.

Immediately on mobilisation banks, stores, automobiles and every resource and appliance in the country seemed to be at the disposal of national defence. Letters of credit were waste paper; large bills for which change could not readily be obtained

were not much better; foreign gold at first was not looked at. Of course money gradually righted itself, as the government issued special war notes; but it took some time. The most curious thing to a stranger was to hear a policeman ring a bell and announce that the price of potatoes was so and so. The people were cared for, as well as protected, for nothing was allowed to be sold at an exorbitant price, and shops were obliged to hold their stocks at the disposal of the state, and until permission was given, only selling certain quantities, such as one pound of sugar to one person at a time, was permitted. For a long time automobiles were not to be seen unless occupied by staff officers.

The contrast between the organisation in things material in Switzerland and Canada was no less marked and remarkable than in things military. Profiting out of military supplies, contracts, horse deals, munition contracts, or graft of any sort was impossible and unknown in the former under its democratic national universal military system. I question if one man in Switzerland could be richer for the war and live in the country.

CHAPTER III

CANADIAN MILITIA

"The Dutch may have their Holland,
The Spaniard have his Spain,
The Yankee to the south of us
Must south of us remain,
And not a man may lift a hand
Against the men who brag
That they were born in Canada
Beneath the British flag!"

—*Pauline Johnson*

Of what does the Canadian militia consist? Most people would now say it consists of 298 battalions or whatever number the last authorised Expeditionary Force corps bears, for it has taken this great war to bring the majority of our people to a first knowledge of or interest in things military. Of course the Expeditionary Force is at present a thing apart from the militia of Canada proper, as this latter can be seen to exist in the authorised establishments of corps and in the "Militia List" which reveals the general organisation, headquarters staffs, and lists of officers.

Now, can the reader answer the first question; can he tell how many divisions, how many battalions, how many batteries, etc., we have? What troops there are in a division, or even in the division (if there be one) in his locality? The chances

are that he will say he does not know, and that he will candidly admit these matters troubled him not at all before the war, and if he is very very candid he may acknowledge that so soon as the war is over he will lose interest in these things again as rapidly as possible.

However, I purpose to aid him to answer these questions. That I am in a position to do it happened thus-wise. Some years ago the secretary of the National Service League of Australia wrote me to say that their League, having accomplished their object, were going to print a final volume, and wished to give a summary of the military forces in each of the self-governing parts of the Empire. Would I send him a description of the Canadian Militia? In acceding to this request, I saw for the first time a summary of our militia force, and the strength of the acknowledging letter from Australia convinced me that the information was appreciated. Therefore I will give later on in this chapter a summary of the present authorised establishment of the militia, *i.e.*, what it is if at full strength.

In all these matters in connection with militia organisation the indifference of our people was simply colossal and sublime. A good many years before the war I had an instance of this, when I visited the general manager of one of our banks requesting aid for something connected with the militia. He asked me what the militia was for anyway. I endeavoured to explain that the safety of our country might possibly be threatened and the duty of the militia would be to defend it. The general manager

laughed, a distinctly derisive character of laughter which annoyed me. There was no mistaking it for a pleasant smile made audible. He did not subscribe.

Business, pleasure, prosperity, long years of peace, and the preaching of the pacifist lulled the Canadian people into a state of actual slumber so far as danger or precaution was concerned. The people have been suddenly awakened. When waked out of a very sound sleep people are apt to be dazed and may make mis-steps. They may be very willing and anxious to do something, but generally act very differently from what they would do if wide-awake and on the look-out for the contingency which has caught them asleep. So, while the anxiety and willingness of the Canadian people to play their part in the great world conflict has been splendid, yet we are paying dearly in dollars for the sound slumber. The waste of money is awful, but is it not a blessing that it is only money and not our country—the lives of our brave lads would be in the scale in any case, whether we were prepared or not? May therefore the lesson come home to us, and may the awakened people of Canada henceforth take an interest in evolving a sane system for defence! England was, if not as sound asleep as Canada, in a condition that called from Lord Roberts an urgent appeal as long ago as 1905 at the Mansion House in London, where he said:

"Surely my fellow-countrymen do not desire to wait until disaster overtakes them before they look into the condition of the armed forces of the Crown

and satisfy themselves that they are in all respects fitted and prepared to undertake the defence of this great Empire. . . Let me entreat you not to permit yourselves to be influenced by the cry of the danger to the country of militarism. If we take the universal liability to service which all other great nations in Europe have found it necessary to adopt, and from which, I believe, none of them dream of going back, there is no possible reason why it should result in a spirit of militarism, the unfounded fear of which blinds so many in this country to the paramount necessity for taking proper measures for the defence of the Empire."

There is a beating-about here in Canada, trying any and every expedient in place of that which Lord Roberts, common sense, the experience of intelligent and progressive nationalities, and our own history all teach is the only possible solution. That Canada is not awake either to the urgency of the present position or to the advantages of a uniform system of universal military training goes without saying. He who runs may read, and no one can claim that the public press is clamouring for a whole-souled policy of national military training and service on a universal compulsion basis.

Nor is the press alone in this. Such bodies of progressive thought, closely connected with material needs, as the Boards of Trade, have been also enjoying the universal soothing slumber of indifference. It might be thought that the reverberations of the roar of guns in France and Belgium would awaken them, but during this present year some

Boards of Trade had matters to attend to other than even to consider this question. One brilliant exception does exist in the case of the Maritime Board of Trade which, under the patriotic guidance of Capt. T. E. McNutt of the Charlottetown Board, unanimously adopted a resolution, moved by ex-Governor McKinnon in August, 1915, as follows: "That with a view towards strengthening the British Empire and having our men trained so as to be ready on all occasions for the defence of their homes, it is advisable that some form of national training be put into force whereby each individual should render some service to the state in any emergency, and thus increase the efficiency of the nation."

The Committee of One Hundred of the Toronto Board of Trade went on record in connection with this matter, but the Council, as representing the members, is still slumbering. The resolution unanimously adopted by the aforesaid Committee on February 19th, 1913, on motion of Mr. Hugh Blain, seconded by Mr. W. K. George, was: "That having heard Colonel Merritt's address on 'National Defence as a Business Proposition,' this conference Committee of One Hundred is impressed with the apparently meagre results from the amount of money spent on the present military system of Canada as compared with Switzerland and other countries; and also with the results in trained men at a very small cost obtained in Nova Scotia prior to Confederation under the universal training laws then in force; and we are strongly of the opin-

ion that the system of universal military training is worthy of careful study and investigation."

But in spite of this recommendation the Council took no decided action—four years ago! Well might we complain against the complacent indifference of our people. One would think that there was no excuse when such a class was reached as that included in the governing body of the great Board of Trade of Toronto. The matter having been before them in such a form as above described should have placed them in a position to judge of the advisability of doing something, if not before the war, at least the moment the dread spectre stalked forth from Germany. Again in the early summer of 1915 I begged the Council of the Toronto Board of Trade to listen to arguments why they should consider this matter with a view of taking action, but they have declined to do so up to the present moment. Supposing the disposition had existed to treat the situation as an emergency in the summer of 1915, and vigorous action brought about compulsory military service, would the results not have been justified by the position of things to-day? And this valuable time—think of it, a whole year and a half!—having been lost, should we not take action at once and discount the future? Is Canada really awake or is she not?

If Canada has been asleep and unprepared on this occasion, unpreparedness has not always been the condition in her past history. Had it been so, another flag, with stars and stripes, would now be flying over the northern half of this North Ameri-

can continent. The preparedness of 1812 dated back from the time of preparedness against the Iroquois in Canada while it was still in the hands of the French, and when a defence system was inaugurated which is fairly comparable to that of our sister colonies of Australia, New Zealand, and South Africa to-day. It may therefore be of interest to review what took place in the past history of Canada and the system under which, at that time, Canada was found prepared.

According to Mr. Benjamin Sulte of Ottawa, the leading authority on the French militia, the Canadian militia dates back to 1649, when the population of the Colony did not exceed one thousand souls. At that time some fifty men were under arms to drive off Iroquois marauders, and it was they who played the principal part in the first campaign of 1666 against them. In 1674-1676 Count Frontenac reorganised the militia, and it remained as he established it up to 1760. The British authorities then found it so well adapted to the conditions of the country that they kept it for a century on the same plan. The militia received no pay and no equipment, each man being obliged to furnish his own fire-piece. The parishes were responsible for units of 5, 10, 20 men to a half or a full company. The captain was a man of influence and ability, selected for these reasons. He served as bailiff, etc., and received all the communications from the government. In a general way he co-operated with the seigneur and the curé, and he had a special pew (*banc d'honneur*) in the church. In

those days training was confined to practice in shooting, as matters relating to camping, transport, etc., were "in the blood" and part of the Frenchman's daily life. In 1760 Murray gave the "Captains of Militia" of the parishes power similar to that of our judges—under a form of military rule. The siege of Quebec took place in December, 1775, when the militia in the province of that name sustained the first clash of the Revolutionary War. If, in 1778-1782, Canada was not taken by the United States it was due to the French-Canadians. The British governors carried on the old French militia regulations of Frontenac by ordinances until the Militia Act of 1808 was adopted in both Upper and Lower Canada. This Act commences: "Whereas a well-regulated militia is of the utmost importance to the defence of this province; and whereas laws now in force for the training and regulating thereof are in some respects defective", and it then enacts, among other things, that every male inhabitant from 16 to 60 years of age shall be deemed capable of bearing arms and shall enroll his name as a militiaman; that the captain may enter any name on the list even if the person does not present himself, and the person is then liable for service, fines, etc.; that on the 4th of June, or oftener if he thinks it necessary, the commanding officer shall call out his company to be reviewed and exercised under penalty of 40s for an officer, or for an N.C.O. or private 10 shillings; that, in the time of war, rebellion, or other pressing emergency, the government may call out and march the militia anywhere in the pro-

vince, under penalty of £50 for an officer or £20 for a N.C.O. or private, or from six to twelve months in gaol; that fines from 5 to 10 shillings be paid for disobedience; that every person enrolled shall, within six months, provide himself with a good and sufficient musket, fusil, rifle, or gun, with at least six rounds of powder and ball, and shall come provided with it when called on, or pay a fine of 5 shillings to 40 shillings for not having it; that Quakers, Mennonites, Tunkers ("conscientious objectors") on producing certificates shall be exempt, but those between 16 and 60 must pay from 20 shillings to £5 annually; that any person refusing to pay fines can be committed to the common gaol.

Such was the basis for a condition of preparedness that enabled us to save Canada in the War of 1812-14. The population of Upper Canada was estimated for 1812 to be 80,000, and of Lower Canada 320,000, and Nova Scotia and New Brunswick 200,000, making a total of 600,000; while on the other hand the census of the United States in 1810 showed a population exceeding eight millions, and in 1812 there would certainly be a proportion of more than thirteen to one.

A blue-book on the Militiamen of 1812-15, issued by the Militia Department from Ottawa in 1876, gives the following: No exact data have yet been found to establish correctly the number of militiamen under arms in *Upper Canada* in 1812-15, but it is stated in an address to the Prince Regent on the subject of services rendered by the militia of that province that "the population able to bear

arms does not exceed 10,000 men; nearly one-half of these were embodied for the whole of the first, and a very considerable portion of the greatest part of the last campaign''. The strength of the militia on actual service above referred to, appears to have been as follows: 550 cavalry, 350 artillery, 55 artificers, and 4,500 infantry; total, 5,455 officers, N.C.O.'s, and men. The province seems to have had only one battalion, 500 strong, which was styled ''the Incorporated Battalion''. The whole of the militia was ordered out in that section of the country in 1813.

The number of militiamen under arms in *Lower Canada* during the war, obtained from the documents on record in the Department of Militia and Defence, was as follows: 183 cavalry, 163 artillery, 323 voyageurs, 10,255 infantry (15 battalions), or a total of 10,917 called out for some period, more or less, and some 12,606 militiamen called out for short periods, varying from a few days to two months, or 23,525 militiamen in all from Lower Canada.

The whole of the regular troops serving in Canada during the war numbered about 13,000 (probably including local enlistments and drafts from the militia to fill up losses), as far as can be ascertained comprising the 1st Foot (1st battalion only), 8th King's Own, 10th Royal Veterans (1 battalion only), 13th, 40th, 41st, 49th, 89th, 100th, 103rd, 104th (New Brunswick) Regiments, besides the Royal Newfoundland, the Meurons, the Fencibles, the Glengarry Regiments, the 19th Light Dragoons,

about 800 Royal Marines and Seamen, and 500 artillery and engineers.

The numbers above give a grand total of 41,980 British troops including militia and Indians.

The whole period of the War of 1812-15 embraced forty-two months, out of which twenty-nine were occupied in actual military operations, *viz.*:

1811.—September; war threatening; preparations made on both sides.

1812.—June; the first attack upon Isle aux Noix. 18th; United States declares war.

1814.—17th September; last battle fought. 24th December; treaty of peace signed in Europe.

1815.—1st March; treaty made known in Canada.

A committee of the United States Senate submitted a report in 1859 which showed that the forces which served on their side throughout the War of 1812 to 1814 reached a grand total of 380,-454, and their losses, as published by the Newburyport *Herald,* gives for regulars 18,015, with 6,284 desertions, and for militia a loss of 870 with 1,368 desertions.

Representative James MacLachlan in January, 1911, presented a criticism in Congress on the condition of the army of the United States compiled by Mr. F. L. Huidekoper, an international military expert, which upholds the splendid results obtaining from the old universal military system in vogue in Canada in saying:

"During the War of 1812 our legislators did a lot of boasting that Canada could easily be captured

without soldiers and that a few volunteers and militia could do the business. What happened? In 1814 the United States called out no less than 235,839 troops, but, notwithstanding the size of these forces, Americans suffered the humiliation of seeing their much-vaunted plan of conquest vanish in the smoke of a burning capital (on 24th August, 1814). In the War of 1812 we had 56,032 regulars and 471,622 militia against the English and Canadian forces of only about 55,000 men. The war cost us $82,627,009 and $45,808,676 in pensions."

Such was the then preparedness, and its result was the saving of Canada.

Victories Won by British Arms (Including Canadian Militia and Indians) in 1812-13-14

1812

Michilimackinac (1)	17th July
Brownstown	5th August
Detroit	16th August
Queenston	13th October
French Mills or Salmon River	23rd November

1813

River Raisin or Frenchtown	22nd January
Ogdensburg	22nd February
Miami	5th May
Isle Aux Noix	3rd June
Stoney Creek	5th June
Beaver Dams or Beech Woods	24th June
Schlosser	5th July
Ball's or Butler's Farm	8th July
Black Rock	11th July
Raid on Plattsburg, Saranac, Swanton, and Champlain	3-4th August
Fort George Reconnaissance	24th August
Chateauguay	26th October
Raid on Hamilton, N.Y.	10th November
Crysler's Farm	11th November
Nanticoke Creek	13th November
McCrae's House	15th December
Fort Niagara	19th December
Black Rock and Buffalo	30th December

1814

Raid on French Mills, N.Y.	14th	February
La Colle	31st	March
Oswego	6th	May
Prairie du Chien	17th	July
Lundy's Lane	25th	July
Michilimackinac (2)	4th	August
Bladensburg and Washington	24th	August
North Point, (near Baltimore)	12th	September
Cook's Mills	19th	October

The weakness of the old militia system was in its rendering. In some provinces the militiaman eventually was taught to bear arms only in one muster-day a year, and there was no other training even in the matter of rifle-shooting. In other provinces, such as Nova Scotia, a better state of things prevailed, but the general weak rendering of an otherwise perfect and necessary system for Canada caused efforts to be made to create an active militia, which should have more training. This appears to have been the object of the partial change effected by the Act of 1846, and of the epoch-making Act of 1855. These Acts constituted the easy, broad road to destruction. The parting of the ways. Instead of strengthening and improving the strenuous and fair system which had saved the country, they commenced the slide down into the greedy and debilitating morass of voluntarism.

The Act of 1846 was the thin edge of the wedge. Its most noticeable features are the introduction of the classification of the old "universal service" militia and the authorisation of "volunteer" companies. While the universal annual enrolment was retained, the men of 40 and over were formed into a second class, which was to be drawn upon only in

war-time. The first class was to be drawn upon for a military force raised for "active" service, not more than 30,000 strong, the "period of service" to be two years. Only one day's training was still the extent of the service required. The Act of 1855 brought about a departure from the old "patriotic service" form of military organisation in Canada, and contemplated the raising of some 5,000 men to form *corps d'élite* among the militia and the retention of the old "universal service." Two "divisions" of militia were now recognised, the "sedentary" and the "active" or "volunteer." The former was to be enrolled annually. The members of the active or volunteer force were to provide their uniforms and clothing free, but they were to receive pay for a specific number of days' drill in the year. In 1859 the volunteer militia were ordered to drill for six consecutive days in each year, with pay of a dollar a day. In the early sixties, schools of military instruction in connection with the regulars then in Canada were established, with $50 allowances to those who obtained certificates of qualification in a 56 days' course. In all, more than 6,000 certificates were thus obtained. In 1865 the volunteer militia was ordered 16 days' drill at 50c. a day.

The annual muster-day was evidently kept up until Confederation, for Lt.-Col. James Walker of Calgary, commanding officer of the 15th Alberta Light Horse, informs me that he enrolled a company at Ancaster village in 1867, on May 24th, Capt. Snider being then the commanding officer of the com-

pany. It seems amazing to realise, through Colonel Walker (who until a very few years ago, was a most active and efficient officer), what a short time has elapsed since the falling-away took place from the principle of "patriotic" or universal service, and the adoption of our present mercenary or dollar system. Colonel Walker bears testimony to the disrepute into which the one muster-day had fallen, how the fine alone forced out the militiamen, when, indeed, he may not have been attracted by the captain's customary "treat" at the nearest tavern, and how respect for superiors had almost vanished, when men would give such answers to their names as "Sitting on the fence," or "Chewing a quid of tobacco."

It might be of interest to quote the opinion of one who fought through 1812-13 and 14, and who lived to see and lament the retrograde steps of new militia enactments. In the biography of the Hon. William Hamilton Merritt, who was lieutenant in the "Niagara Light Dragoons," 1812, and captain commanding a troop of "Provincial Dragoons" in 1813-14 until taken prisoner at the battle of Lundy's Lane, we find his biographer (J. P. Merritt, his son) states: "1846.—A new Militia Bill was brought in, on which he expressed a preference for the old law of 1808, inaugurated under the immortal Brock, whereby flank companies were always kept enrolled and trained for an emergency, thereby forming an active force, ready at any time to take the field, and form a rallying body for the rest. The wisdom of this scheme was well tried in 1812, when nearly the

entire militia force was ready to take the field in defence of their country in from 12 to 24 hours after the declaration of war." And again: "1854.—In March of this year we find the first movement towards establishing a volunteer organisation, which afterwards entirely supplanted the old militia, although we doubt if the results of the movements have paid us good interest on the money spent over its institution, as we are still without the efficient home army of 1794, 1812, or even 1837."

In Nova Scotia, as has been indicated, the annual training was for five days, and much more satisfactory conditions existed. Senator the Hon. L. G. Power has written some very valuable contributions on the Nova Scotia militia as it existed prior to Confederation. In one of his articles he justly complains: "Since the union of the provinces, 1867, neither government, Parliament, nor the people have appeared to treat the subject of the militia very seriously."

The most pertinent point of all is that, as an example, the year before Confederation, there were 58,000 militia in that one small province, and of these 45,767 were actually trained that year for the usual five days, and the total expenditure was only $114,460, of which amount $36,561 was of an extraordinary character, arising out of the Fenian scare, so-called, and included also were small grants in aid of volunteers who were required to undergo twelve days drill in each year, to wear a uniform and to

put in a certain amount of target practice, and who numbered in 1866 something over 1,100.

In an article, *The Defence of Canada,* by the Hon. Mr. Power, published in the *Canadian Magazine* in December, 1915, not only the above facts are given, but the following interesting information: "There being no regular organisation of the militia and no definite scheme for filling our units to war establishment, or for reserves in the military sense, Canada, as against any formidable force, is *practically undefended.* It is clear that we have not now an effective and sufficient provision for defence, and also clear that it is our duty to make such provision. The question naturally arises, what kind of system should be adopted?"

With reference to the Senator's own province of Nova Scotia, to verify the first mentioned facts and figures above, he quotes the adjutant-general of the province of Nova Scotia in a report dated 19th October, 1866: "I have the honour to state that the five days' annual drill of all the men of martial age, *i.e.,* between 16 and 45 years of age, having now had the effect of forming a thorough organisation by regiments, with nearly a full complement of well-trained, examined, and passed officers, (with inconsequential exceptions), the militia forces of this province by last year's returns, consisting of 59,379 of all ranks, are now well in hand and capable of carrying out any orders they may receive from Your Excellency (the Lieutenant-Governor) commanding-in-chief, with the object of further progress." A quotation is also given from an official

report made in January, 1914: "It is undoubtedly the fact that the whole provincial militia was then (in March, 1866) in a splendid state of organisation, extending to the remotest sections of the province, and was capable of being mustered at the shortest possible notice. A school of instruction was established at headquarters in Halifax, which was attended by a considerable number of officers from every county in the province in the years 1865 and 1866. By March, 1866, there were 113 regiments of militia efficiently organised and under training, as well as five brigades of artillery and eleven voluntary corps. The 113 regimental districts covered every foot of territory in the Province. Artillery and voluntary corps were located at various points around the coast." The Senator remarks: "The marked efficiency and economy of the militia department were, it may be assumed, largely due to the fact that party politics did not enter into its administration. There are no doubt persons who think that, if the Governor-General of Canada, whose commission constitutes him commander-in-chief, discharged the same function to the Dominion as did the Lieutenant-Governor to the province, the record of our Militia Department might be even better than it is.

"The obligation of the citizen to do his share towards defending his country is at least as strong as that to serve on juries or to pay school or road tax; and militia duty, when universally enforced, would be cheerfully performed without pay. In

Nova Scotia the yearly training was looked upon as a kind of picnic.

"The total expenditure on the militia system in Nova Scotia under the system in operation at the time of the union, was considerably less than $2.00 for each man actually drilled, or than $1.50 for each man enrolled in the active militia. It is the writer's honest belief that the Nova Scotia system as it existed in 1867 was the best and cheapest in the world."

The officers were obliged to undergo a fairly long course of instruction and to pass examinations on their duties, and the men were drilled by sergeants qualified as instructors. The privates, as a rule, did not wear uniform, and with the exception of the headquarters staff, the adjutant and the drill-sergeant, none of the officers were directly paid.

The Senator strongly urges universal military service, and says: "The effect of military drill upon the physique of those who undergo it is markedly beneficial; and the effect of training in the way of instilling love of order and the spirit of discipline and obedience, would be of almost incalculable value.

"It is to be hoped that the government will introduce a bill which will make provision for the defence of Canada. Prompt action is desirable, because our people are now keenly alive to the risks that they have run, while after a year or two of peace they would have gone back to a state of fancied security out of which the present war has wak-

ened them. There may be a long period of peace after the vast conflict now raging. On the other hand there may not. We have the highest authority for believing that, to the end, there will be wars and rumours of wars, and the best way of preventing any attack on our country is to be prepared to resist it, no matter how unexpected or sudden it may be".

In 1868, after Confederation, a Militia Act for the whole Dominion was passed, which is virtually the system at present existing, with an active militia and a dormant, or sedentary, militia as a reserve. The Militia Act of 1901 is, however, a more decided step in the direction of a standing army in that it provides for a permanent force of 2,000, increased in 1905 to 5,000. In 1906 a great change was inaugurated in the Militia Act, cutting away the underlying spirit of the original Act and depriving it of the old title-deeds of a true militia which saved Canada to the British Crown. Up to 1906 the militia consisted of "all male inhabitants of Canada of the age of 18 years and upwards, and under sixty," whereas after that date it is provided that "The male inhabitants between 18 and 60 shall be *liable* to serve in the militia." As the powers in the Act apply only to the *militia,* or to make drafts from such, this change vastly alters its character.

The composition of the militia force of Canada, not including "The Canadian Expeditionary Force," is a thing unknown to most people. Such things as this may have been noted, that the Report

of the Militia Council for 1913 sets forth that the total establishment of the active militia for 1912 was 66,014 and of this that 48,140 performed annual training, and total expenditure was $9,090,510, but the ordinary mind is very hazy as to the actual composition of the force.

I have, therefore, thought that it may prove of interest to give in a short tabulated form a statement of what the Canadian Militia consisted in 1916 according to the authorised establishments—if complete and full strength:

ACTIVE MILITIA—(Permanently embodied)

	Establishment			Strength 3/31/14	
	Off.	O.R.	Horses	Off.	O.R.
Cavalry, 4 squadrons	27	319	265	27	296
Horse Artillery, 2 batteries	17	237	267	15	227
Garrison Artillery, 5 companies	33	623	53	30	602
Engineers, 3 fortress companies	27	280	6	26	271
Infantry, 1 regiment	42	751	12	39	718
Army Service Corps	19	145	55	16	122
Army Medical Corps	26	73	26	26	74
Army Veterinary Corps	4	4	00	3	5
Ordnance Corps—11 detachments	30	292	00	26	257
Army Pay Corps—10 detachments	15	44	00	15	38
Military Staff Clerks	5	66	00	4	77
Staff Ordnance Service	0	16	00	00	00
School of Musketry	0	6	00	00	4
School of Signalling	0	7	00	0	8
Physical Training Instructors	0	0	00	0	12
Militia Officers attached for duty	0	0	00	13	00
Officers and N.C.O.'s in England and abroad	0	0	00	15	16
Officers and N.C.O.'s on loan from British Army	0	0	00	7	13
Total	245	2863	684	262	2740

All ranks—Total establishment.....3,108; horses.....684
All ranks—Total 31st March, 1914..3,002.

ACTIVE MILITIA—(Citizen Army)

1916	Establishments Totals	
	Personnel	Horses
CAVALRY—		
19 Regiments of 4 squadrons	6,555	5,681
15 Regiments of 3 squadrons	5,175	4,620
1 Regiment of 2 squadrons	241	213
1 Independent Regiment	104	95
FIELD ARTILLERY—		
7 Brigades of 3 batteries	2,352	1,575
Ammunition columns	66	54
Transport	595	980
7 Brigades of 2 batteries	1,603	1,071
Ammunition columns	33	27
4 Independent batteries	428	288
HEAVY ARTILLERY—		
1 Brigade of 2 batteries	243	156
Ammunition column	25	22
Transport	28	56
1 Brigade of 2 batteries	248	156
Ammunition column	50	44
Transport	56	112
1 Independent battery	116	76
GARRISON ARTILLERY—		
1 Regiment of 4 companies	476	....
3 Regiments of 3 companies	1,135	12
2 Siege companies	143	....
ENGINEERS—		
4 Field Troops	210	180
11 Field Companies	2,153	472
CORPS OF GUIDES	499	379
INFANTRY—		
77 Regiments of 8 Companies	42,119	462
22 Regiments of 4 Companies	26,206	....
2 Regiments of 2 Companies	2,098	26
1 Regiment of 10 Companies	665	6
1 Regiment of 6 Companies	429	6
2 Independent Companies	118	....
SIGNALLING CORPS—		
13 Sections	294	48
ARMY SERVICE CORPS—		
6 Headquarter Companies	750	420
15 Other Companies	1,590	765
ARMY MEDICAL CORPS—		
6 Field Companies	102	21
15 Cavalry Field Ambulance	60	27
2 Clearing Hospitals	100	18
CANADIAN ARMY VETERINARY CORPS	250	100
ORDNANCE CORPS	20	....
POSTAL CORPS	43	....

Canada is divided into ten military districts. In six of these districts there is a division, and in the other districts there is a mounted brigade and an infantry brigade or the equivalent. In all the military districts there are also additional corps. The nominal strength of a division varies from 8,760 to 10,850, but a certain number of the included corps are as yet "not organised". Enlistment is at 18 years of age and upwards, except as a bugler, trumpeter, or drummer. There is no organised reserve except in above "corps reserve" establishment. There are 432 civilian rifle associations with 27,626 members. In case of emergency these become members of the militia and subject to orders. The government grants $1.00 a member up to 40 members, 50 cts. a member up to 80 members, or a maximum of $60.00 per annum towards care and maintenance. The cadet corps, of whom there are 661, are of varying strength, from seven battalions to one company of nominal strength of forty. As they are on a voluntary basis their strength is of course irregular. In the report of the Militia Council for 1913 it is stated that of the corps existing in 1911 "a large number were then dormant and had to be reorganised". On 1st March, 1913, there were 759 companies with 30,300 cadets, the largest number being in the province of Quebec. The summer training camps of 1912 were attended by 7,019 "cadets and other boys". Total government expenditure on cadets for 1912-13 was $93,723. Training for the militia consists of 12 days annually, when money grants do not prohibit, with 16 days

for artillery; voluntary drills are sometimes undertaken by city corps. The city corps do their training by night drills, and the rural corps in camp. As an example of proportion trained, in 1912 out of total establishment of 66,014 (including 10th Hussars, 6th, 21st, and 36th Batteries, 2nd, 3rd and 4th Field Troops C. E., and 18th, 20th, 28th, 29th, 86th, and 106 regiments relieved from training), there were 16,712 trained at local headquarters (city corps) and 31,428 trained in camps (rural corps), a total of 48,140. Out of establishment of 15,503 horses there were 5,745 at training. The matter of training is alluded to under the chapter on "Comparison and Cost".

The present artillery guns are chiefly Q. F., 18-pounders, B.L., 15-pounders and 5-in. and 6-in. B.L. Howitzers, and the Heavy Artillery B. L. 60-pounders. The coast ports fortified with fixed defences are Halifax, N.S., Esquimault, B.C., and works for the defence of the St. Lawrence River below Quebec. The Royal Military College at Kingston had 124 cadets in 1912. Citizen officers are sometimes given instruction there in connection with a "long course" to prepare for the permanent corps, or some special staff course. With reference to the important matter of rifle ranges the inspector-general reported in the 1913 Report of the Militia Council: "Many large centres are still without any accommodation, and it is needless to remark upon the necessity for urgency in this provision". There are 59 government ranges, 13 ranges under lease to the government, towards which public money has

been devoted for construction and there were before the war 488 ranges owned, leased, and used exclusively by civilian associations, but at the present time no accurate information is obtainable regarding them. Rifles and rifle ammunition are manufactured at Quebec, where a limited number of 18-pd. shells were also made prior to the war. A government arsenal is now building at Lindsay, Ontario, where small arm ammunition will be turned out.

We of the British Empire boast that the local government of the parts has tended to contentment in the whole. Canadians would be loath to exchange their decentralised form of government for an autocracy such as that of Germany. It may be wondered how townships and counties, to say nothing of our provinces, would like their local affairs all run from Ottawa, and, if they were, what would be the result as regards expense? Canadians often wonder, undoubtedly, how it is that there has been so little interest taken in our military affairs. We have hardly recognised that from the days when each parish had its officer collecting the names of those whose duties it was to serve and be armed, there has gradually been a withdrawing from local control and local influence and local co-operation until the whole organisation and fabric of the militia is centralised into the hands of one political chief at one centre. Not only does this constitute an extraordinary contrast to the model of Switzerland, as shown by Chapters II and VI, but it is a steady and complete falling away from the old principles and old forms of military organisation and govern-

ment which obtained in Canada from the earliest days of its settlement. The shrinking away has taken place, as we have indicated, from the "Captain of the Parishes", from the provincial organisations into a centralised, unsympathetic, and unworkable autocracy with all its accompanying extravagance and ineffective results.

It should be absolutely clear that either the system of organisation and local control of the British Empire, and of Canada in its civil departments, is all wrong and based on a wrong principle, and that the centralised autocratic basis of the militia should be also the basis for the civil government of the Empire and of the Dominion, or that the militia organisation of the Dominion of Canada is all wrong and should be reorganised and rearranged from top to bottom, and made to conform, in its principles and practices, to those of the civil conditions, and to those principles which underlie and govern the military organisation of Switzerland, and which moreover were in existence and carried out with great advantage in our own country of Canada previous to Confederation.

It is said because war is on we must not "swap horses crossing a stream" and change our military system. They talked that way in England, and even the National Service League, of which Lord Roberts was president, ceased to agitate for compulsory service, but it came there all the same! As a corollary to the above, not only has it been impossible to raise and maintain a defence force which, in proportion to our population, is worthy of the

name (that is to say, an adequate force immediately available), but now in a time of supreme urgency it compels emergency organisations to tackle the situation practically upside down. Some of us are unable to serve, but we all wish the recruiting of men God-speed. Not only is it a privilege, but we conceive it a supreme duty for all to aid in every way the recruiting of the manhood of every part of the British Empire, to save the life of the Empire and add to its strength and glory. We earnestly trust, therefore, that we are wrong in believing that the results arising from these organisations must be disappointing, until the fundamental basis of obligation coupled with decentralized co-operation is brought into play, and when it is, may that basis ever remain as a corner-stone for national safety!

CHAPTER IV

THE UNITED STATES AND PREPAREDNESS

"We have met the enemy, and they are ours."

—*Commodore Oliver H. Perry,*
September 10th, 1813

We have seen how admirable was the result of our old-time preparedness in saving Canada in 1812-14, and we have reviewed an excellent modern example in the case of the splendid mobilisation of Switzerland. We might therefore very properly now consider some reasons why, situated as we are, we should be prepared, altogether apart from the burning question of our present duty to the Empire and to ourselves on the blood-stained fields of Europe.

One of these reasons is that some day our, at present, very good friends to the south of us might attempt to do what they did not succeed in accomplishing in 1812-14. At all events not only is it of interest to record the widespread and powerful advocacy of Universal Military Training and Service in the United States which preceded her entry into the world-war as a belligerent, under the aegis of conscription, but it is only right and proper for us to recognise something of what is being done to make her more powerful on land and sea.

To anyone highly sensitive about Canadian in-

tellectual discernment this adoption of obligatory military service by our great neighbour must have come as a distinct shock, for, if anything were wanting, it seems indeed to put an exclamation mark to the fact that we have been the last among the present belligerents to, for the time being, discard the debasing and obsolete voluntary system.

Pacifists are satisfied to seek shelter behind treaties, agreements and high assurances of esteem and friendship as sufficient safeguard for peace, but of this Mr. Roosevelt has to say in an article in the *New York Times*:—

"What has befallen Belgium and Luxemburg shows the utter helplessness of trusting to any treaties unless they are backed by sufficient power to secure their enforcement. No arbitration or peace treaties of the kind recently negotiated at Washington by the bushelful, no tepid good-will of neutral powers will help us in the smallest degree." The same note is struck by the London correspondent of a neutral Continental power when he wrote in September, 1914: "I have never ceased to say that no country will pay any attention to the articles of The Hague Conference as binding when its interests direct otherwise. Germany has furnished us with a cynical proof. It is always the same with treaties. The whole world has thus unblushingly violated these unfortunate treaties".

In connection with this subject many people will remember the remarkable book, before alluded to, *The Valour of Ignorance* by Homer Lea. Mr. Lea's work was a plea for greater preparedness on the

part of the United States, especially as against Japan. The logical treatment of the subject and the array of facts compiled by Mr. Lea were unanswerable, and no one attempted to refute them. Subsequently the worth of Mr. Lea's vast experience and practical ability was recognised in that China summoned him to reorganise her military forces. Soon after commencing this work he died in that country. In his work Homer Lea points out the national suicide involved in excessive commercialism at the expense of defence precautions and a strenuous national life. He says: "Whenever a nation becomes excessively opulent and arrogant, at the same time being without military power to defend its opulence or support its arrogance, it is in a dangerous position. Whenever the wealth and luxury of a nation stands in inverse ratio to its military strength, the hour of its desolation, if not at hand, approaches. When the opulence and unmartial qualities of one nation is in inverse ratio to the poverty and the military prowess of another, while their expansion is convergent, there results those inevitable wars wherein the commercial nation collapses and departs from the activities of mankind forever".

Homer Lea says further: "Expansion of a nation's boundaries is indicative, not only of its external growth, but of the virility of its internal constitution; the shrinkage of its boundaries, the external exemplification of its internal decay. . . . The territorial dominions of the United States are not only those possessions governed by its laws, but

that vast region of Mexico, the West Indies, Central and South America, which, as far as being causative of war, are as much under the political sovereignty of the United States as are the States of the Union. The preservation of the constitution is not more vital than the inviolability of the Monroe Doctrine. . . . Of the world's territory that comes under the political jurisdiction of the Republic, two-thirds is covered by Mexico, Central and South America, capable of supporting three times as many empires as now divide Europe. . . . The political responsibilities that this Republic has so unconcernedly assumed in establishing its suzerainty over the Western Hemisphere and a tentative dominion over the Pacific are as vast, etc. . . . The peace of the future must be, as in the past, an armed peace. . . . In 1906 there were in England to each million of the population, eight murders committed, in Germany four, and in the United States 118. This republic exceeds all other civilised nations in crime. . . . . Through the excessive criminality of any nation there will always exist concomitant violation of the rights and privileges of other countries as guaranteed to them by the usage of the international law, and which must, in due time, culminate in war. . . . The unlettered savage . . . . evolved the very spirit of human obligation that this great Republic is coming to know not of. Its disregard for such pacts is not only increasing, but its violations are, in many instances, unworthy of the nation's potential greatness''.

The manner in which in times past the United

States met the demand for men to uphold the sovereignty of their union was well told by the *Spectator* in September, 1914, to show what that great democratic state did not hesitate to do. It points out that at the time of the Civil War in the United States, 75,000 men were first called out to serve in the militia by President Lincoln in 1861, and subsequently 41,000 volunteers were called for the army and navy. There was an outburst of enthusiasm at first which soon died away, and it failed to produce an army; so that volunteering became an admitted failure, and the "draft" was inaugurated, after posters—"$15.00 hand-money given to any man bringing a volunteer"—were insufficient. The "draft" was naturally unpopular among those who did not want to serve.

President Lincoln prepared a striking defence of the compulsory service which he intended to publish, but did not actually issue to the nation. In it was the following clause: "The principle of draft, which simply is involuntary or enforced service, is not new. It has been practised in all ages of the world. It was well known to the framers of our Constitution as one of the modes of raising armies, at the time they placed in that instrument the provision that 'the Congress shall have power to raise and support armies'. It had been used just before, in establishing our independence, and it was also used under the Constitution in 1812. Wherein is the peculiar hardship now? Shall we shrink from the necessary means to maintain our free government, which our grandfathers employed to establish

it, and our own fathers have already employed once to maintain it? Are we degenerate? Has the manhood of our race run out?" And his concluding sentence was, "With these views, and on these principles, I feel bound to tell you it is my purpose to see the draft law faithfully executed."

Tracing some of the movement, which has so far culminated in the recommendation of the President of the United States that their army should "*be chosen upon the principle of universal liability to service*", we find that the widespread feeling in favour of preparedness in the United States brought about a Universal Military Training Bill which was favourably reported upon by the Military Affairs Committee of the Senate. Primarily the bill provided that all men, citizens or those who have declared their intent to become citizens, shall undergo six months military or naval training in the year in which they reach the age of nineteen or in the year when they first become liable to such service up to the age of 26. All men receiving such training would be held in the army or navy reserve until they reach the age of 28. In giving evidence before the Committee Major-General Scott, chief of staff of the army, detailed why the general staff considered the volunteer system wholly broken down, inefficient, and useless, and urged that it be discarded for a universal system of liability to training and service.

General Scott, disclosing much of the army war college material, hitherto regarded as confidential, shows that the army general staff now believes that

instead of 500,000 available men, which is considered sufficient as a start to defend the country against invasion, the country should have 1,500,000 fully trained men at the beginning of a war, with a like number ready to follow in 90 days. The change is based on the development of the British army, the organisation of great Canadian forces, and the British alliance with Japan.

For war with a first-class power the general staff had previously estimated that 500,000 fully equipped troops should be ready at the outbreak and that 500,000 more should be available in 90 days. In view of the lessons of the war, the general was now of the opinion that 1,500,000 fully equipped and ready troops should be first available, with another 1,500,000 in 90 days.

"This is due," said he, "to the fact that one of the powers involved in the war, and whose territory extends the whole length of our northern frontier, has increased its army from a relatively small force to a strength approximating that of the other great European powers. Due to the fact that our northern neighbour is largely an island empire, a great portion of any trained force it may possess can be spared for use in a distant theatre of operations because, being an island empire, the control of the sea gives it practical immunity from invasion where troops would have to be transported across the sea.

"It should be pointed out also that our northern neighbour is in alliance with a powerful Oriental nation—another island empire—and for the same reason when acting in alliance with a power which

has control of the sea, has ability to send its army of 2,225,000 men to any part of the world without danger of invasion.

"I think a mere statement of these facts makes it clear that at present we are practically defenceless before the veteran armies of our northern neighbours and could easily be crushed by the existing conditions of the island empires.

"While a war waged against us by an alliance may, in the future, be a possibility, it is not a probability, and it is believed that if we provide an adequate army to defend the country against any single nation the probability of a war between the U. S. and a coalition of powers would grow even more remote."

The main features of the Universal Service system of national defence provided by the General Staff of the United States Army Bill are as follows:

(1) *Training in Peace.*—To effect universal training in peace and efficient service in war, it is proposed to call out all able-bodied male citizens in their nineteenth year—amounting to some 500,000 men annually—and to give them eleven months' continuous training, to be followed later by two repetition courses of two weeks each, one in their twentieth year, and one in their twenty-first year. The only persons exempted from training are the physically or mentally unfit, or those who are the sole support of "destitute dependents".

(2) *Service in War.*—Those who have completed the eleven months' continuous training are liable for service in the Reserves as follows:

(a) In the First Reserves for four years and one month.

(b) In the Second Reserve for seven years.

(c) In the Unorganised Reserves until the age of forty-five.

(3) *The First Reserve.*—The purpose of the bill is to constitute the First Reserve as a fully organised and equipped fighting force with a strength of 1,500,000 men, ready to respond instantly to a call to arms. This force is to be fully armed and equipped, and its organisation, training, and preparedness for mobilisation are to be tested by an annual assembly and muster, with a short period of training and manœuvre.

(4) *Permanent Personnel.*—A regular standing army, exclusive of reserve force, is provided for to the number of about 310,000.

As we go to press it is pleasing to find that Congress has decided to raise the forces of the United States for the present war on a compulsory basis, "Conscription."

In their scheme for national mobilisation of men and resources for war the United States has therefore in a bound passed us so far as to be practically out of sight, our three years experience notwithstanding. Where do we find editorials in our press preaching such pure gospel for a national defence system as the following which appeared in the New York *Evening Mail* of April 7th, 1917?

THE WILL TO SERVE

"Our whole recruiting system is now to go by the board and we are to claim from each citizen the service which is his due, rather than attempt to bribe him to render it. The recruiting system has been based upon the idea of advertising and overselling the romance of the army and navy, good pay, a chance to see the world, promotion. The appeal was made solely to the selfish instincts of man.

"Universal military service appeals to something larger than individual welfare. War is the natural teacher of the greatest principle in the world: the principle that not individual welfare but welfare of the social group, the nation, is the source of those enduring values for which we must labour and struggle. Out of the conditions and the spirit of this social group our children and our children's children will draw their inspiration. From it they will receive their standard of life, their literature, their religion, their motives and rules of conduct, all the great things of life.

"The mercenary army fails because its appeal is not high enough. Confronted by the lure of pay, profit, and adventure, the man weighs and balances the reward. Is it more or less than he

can get in other fields? It is always less; the public service, in its offer of personal profit, can never compete with private business. The attempt should never be made. Service for a man's country can be put on a basis with which bait of reward cannot compare. That is a basis upon which that service is put, under the principle of universal military obligation to serve.

"Such service is the well-spring of patriotism. The relationships in life that we prize most are not those which give us the greatest profit, but those which give us the opportunity to do for others. Browning sang:

Nearer we hold of God
Who gives, than of His tribes that take,
I must believe.

"That deep truth, constantly demonstrated anew, keeps us optimistic as to the future of the race. Not the smallest accomplishment of universal military service is that it gives this truth an opportunity for expression and development in individual and national life."

The same lofty conception of a basis for 'mobilising the whole nation' is exhibited in a description by Melville Davisson Post of the action already taken by the government of the United States. The writer conceives the fundamental idea of a Republic as unity of privlege and unity of obligation—where privileges are equal, obligations must be also equal, an obligation alike on every man and every property.

"The state exacts that every railroad, every motor factory, every mine, and, if the need be, every acre of tillable earth must be also at the call of the country's defence. The great central idea in a plan for mobilising all the resources of the country is that no private individual, no corporation or association of persons shall make any profit out of the national necessity. There shall be preparedness without profits!

"The government has appointed a Council of National Defence to coordinate the military, industrial and commercial energies of the whole country, so they could be used as a unit for the defence of the nation. Already a blow has been struck at exorbitant war profits in that a certain manufacturer has been directed to furnish a large order of war supplies at prices fixed by the government, far lower than the figures voluntary submitted. If the order is not obeyed, the plant will be taken over and operated by the government.

"Also in the case of the railways the present intention of the government is to advise these corporations as to the service it requires from time to time, and, when working to that end, all the railways will be operated practically as one system. If a reasonable price is not accepted for anything, munitions, supplies etc. the government will take over and operate the plant, mine, etc."

One of our Canadian papers frankly says: "And, after all, why should not the United States take advantage of our mistakes and obtain a proper army in a proper way? Selective conscription in Canada would have done the business. From the very beginning, just because a spineless government would not look facts in the face, we have put the wrong men in uniform. Those who should have stayed home have gone, and those who should have gone are still with us, and will be until forced to go. We took men off the farms, but the billiard players, matinee goers, and other idlers are still at their respective amusements. Young men are still selling neckwear and measuring off ribbon, but the hard-fisted mechanic, whom no woman can replace, has gone overseas."

The general provisions of the "Selective draft" bill passed both branches of Congress on 28th April, and they overwhelmingly indicated by their votes that the Volunteer system was a useless method of raising an army. It was decided to authorise the President to raise, organise, equip and officer the regular army to maximum strength of 287,000 men and the National Guard to approximately 625,000.

To raise by selective conscription an additional army of 500,000 men, the quota of each State being in proportion to its population.

To raise in his discretion a second army of 500,000 men by selective conscription.

Exemption to members of executive, legislative, and judicial branches of the government, all ministers, and all persons belonging to religious sects opposed to war. President also in his discretion can exclude those "who have persons dependent on them for support."

President's proclamation is to be notice to register and failure to register is a misdemeanour. The age limit of those subject to selective draft is 21 to 30 inclusive.

President Wilson advocated service based on compulsion; a selective draft (conscription) from men ranging in age from 19 to 25 years. The matter of the permanent military policy of the country is still left open, as there is a hope of an international basis of co-operation after the war, but the wisdom shown by the United States offers no good reason for belief that she will remain an adherent of the voluntary system. It is distinctly laid down by the many advocates of universal military training and service in the United States that the selective draft is accepted only as the advance guard. This is borne out by the opinions of leading citizens and soldiers.

One of the very leading military men of the United States, Major-General Leonard Wood, frankly says: "It is a great deal better to get ready for war and not have war, than it is to have war and not be ready for it. You must adopt some system which rests upon the basic principle on which this and every other democracy stands, has stood, and always will stand, that manhood suffrage means manhood obligation for service. It may not be service in the line with a rifle in hand; it may be service as a minister of finance; it may be ser-

vice as a surgeon back of the line; it may be as an aviator, or as a pilot of transports, or a maker of munitions—it may be one of a thousand different things; but somewhere everyone has a place, if of the right age and physically fit, and he must know where that place is, and the government must know what his qualifications are. . . . . My personal opinion is we must adopt some system not unlike the Swiss and the Australian, under which all of our youth, all our men, will receive a basic military training that will make it possible for them to become quickly, reasonably efficient soldiers. . . . We are taking in enormous numbers of alien people. They come in racial groups, they live in racial groups, and they go to racial schools and are fed by a dialect press. We have too little contact with them and do little to make them good citizens. I think some system of universal training would have a great influence in this direction. . . . The fact that we have unlimited resources in the way of men and money is an assurance only to those who do not understand that neither men nor money are of much value without time for organisation and preparation. . . . . We do not want to see your sons and your young men thrown into war willing but unprepared and unready. Such a procedure is simply murder, not only murder, but wanton murder, because it can result only from deliberate neglect and failure to heed conditions which exist today and to take heed from the lessons of all time. It is gross and brutal disregard of human life. . . . The plain lessons of the moment, written in language which even he

who runs may read, is that we must be prepared and be prepared quickly."

Other views expressed by very prominent Americans are such as: "We alone, of all the nations of the world, are now depending upon a hireling army to protect our vast nation of a hundred millions, and are presenting a spectacle of such helplessness and lack of fitness for self-defence that it is without parallel in the history of major nations. . . . . There is wide advocacy of a system like that of Switzerland or Australia, where training and military service are universal and obligatory. . . . The volunteer system has been attended at every step by waste and failure, draining the national treasury of two billion dollars in ten years and contributing to farce and tragedy in equal degree. . . . It is the lesson of the past that every country, in every great war, has had to resort to conscription, because of the cowardice or indifference that hides at home while bravery and patriotism make their sacrifices of blood upon the battlefield. . . . It rests in effect, upon the proposition that the national defense is not a duty that is owed, but a favour to be conferred. It is inconceivable that men and women who profess to believe in democracy should be fighting universal military service and upholding the voluntary system, which reeks with graft, inequality, and discrimination. The outcry against 'compulsion' affords another instance of muddy thinking. At every point in our national life, compulsion is seen as an active driving force. We compel our children to go to school; we compel observance of

health, sanitary, and fire laws; we compel observance of the rights of property and the sacredness of life; in a word, if compulsion were taken away, chaos would ensue. To fit its army of 500,000 for mobilisation within forty-eight hours, Switzerland spends about $8,000,000 a year, while the people of the United States spend over $100,000,000 for an army of less than one hundred thousand. Preparation for the national defence, when confided to the people as a whole, will rob the military clique ("Militarism") of all power and eventually destroy it entirely."

Another prominent author points out that as we look back over the records of history down to the Napoleonic era, we see the downfall of nations coterminous with the decline of military virtue and the abandonment of thorough-going systems of universal service. "It may be that, fundamentally, the decline of military virtue was due to civic and private degeneration, but always the first sign of coming dissolutions was the effort of the nation to avoid the rigour of military service. . . . . If this nation heeds the maudlin preachments of its Fords and Bryans, it will pay for it by billions of levied treasure, by millions of lives slaughtered in a sacrifice to unpreparedness and by abject and unprecedented national humiliation, if not extinction. . . . . Universal military service will be the elder brother of the public school in fusing this American race."

We find a prominent leader of labour, president of one of the trade associations of the United States, declaring that "War is not necessarily

bad. It all depends upon what war is about. . . . A man who is a wage-earner and honourably working at his trade or calling to support himself and those dependent upon him, has not only the right to become a citizen soldier, but that right must be unquestioned". And a former Secretary of the Interior gives the comforting assurance that "Canada is probably a hostage in our reach against war with England, but let us assume that it would be a military asset for Great Britain". . . .

On May 21st, 1915, Mr. Garrison, Secretary of War, addressing the International Arbitration Conference, advocated an immediate and fearless consideration, generally ridiculing the argument of the pacifists that if a nation was unprepared for war it was more unlikely to be involved in war. Neither could reliance be placed upon its good intentions towards other nations or other nations towards righteousness, the pages of history abounding with illustrations to the contrary. Mr. Garrison concluded: "Evil preys upon virtue, the unjust upon the just, and the covetous upon those whose possessions it covets."

Following its appeal, made in May, 1915, for a million volunteer workers for national defence, the following was adopted by the National Security League on 22nd January, 1916: "Be it resolved that: The defence of the United States depends upon an adequate navy and a national army founded upon a system of universal obligatory military training and service. This system must be wholly under the discipline and control of the national authorities.

We deprecate all steps which tend to obstruct or postpone the adoption of such a universal system."

It may be of some interest to note that prior to their decision to enter the war the organisation of the United States for war consisted of four regular and twelve militia divisions, comprising 350,000 troops, immediately available for the first line in the field.

The regular Federal Army of the United States on 1st February, 1917, had a strength of 5,000 officers and 118,000 men, of whom 11,362 were in the Philippines, 8,840 in Hawaii, 6,373 in Panama, 1,200 in China, and 600 in Porto Rica. Under the scheme of the General Staff, endorsed by President Wilson (as already indicated in "note") it is to be increased to 298,700 for the Great War. This number augmented by 337,300 National Guards will give 636,000 as a commencement of an army of some two millions, which is to be trained and ready in a year and a half to two years, or as much less as is found possible.

With reference to the naval position of the United States, the following somewhat significant paragraph from *Harper's Weekly* of New York might be quoted: "What size of navy do we need? This would be a very hard question to answer if it were not for the example of the only other nation in the world as great and as rich and as isolated in her grandeur as we ourselves. That nation is Great Britain. Her wise policy decides on a navy of a certain size. This is our only guide. We shall be safe if we have a navy as great as hers". And

commenting on the naval programme of the United States, Mr. Archibald Hurd, the naval expert of the *Daily Telegraph* remarks in December of 1914: "The British people have not yet realised that the United States may in the next twelve months reach the position which we have occupied so long as the supreme naval power. At present this nation ranks third, but a good third. If there is a battle in the North Sea the German High Sea Fleet cannot be sunk, or even seriously reduced in strength, without our Grand Fleet being injured—at least this is what Grand Admiral von Tirpitz has hitherto believed. He has always assumed that if his navy can sufficiently damage ours, we may awake one morning to find that the trident has passed, at any rate, for the time, from our hands into those of the United States.

"We hardly credit in this country the progress which the United States Navy has made during the fifteen years or so. We have had other things to think of. It rivals, in fact, the fleet of Germany. It has for some years been an open question on the other side of the Atlantic whether the Germans are really the stronger at sea, all the elements of naval power being taken into consideration.

"The United States is about to lay down an entirely new type of battleship—one driven by electricity. We are thus presented with the possibility that in future all American battleships may be propelled by electricity, and who knows that the electrically-propelled liner across the Atlantic may not prove a development of the immediate future. At

any rate, we may be sure that the Americans would not be going to all this trouble, and would not be spending $75,000,000 on five new battleships—when they could have 100 or more submarines instead—unless they were convinced that the command of the sea, in the future as in the past, would be exercised by battleship, and by the battleship of the largest size."

PLAN OF THE THREE-YEAR PROGRAM — 1917, 1918, 1919. (Authorized by Act of Congress of August 29th, 1916.)

Type	Authorized in 3-year Program	Appropriated for in Naval Bill for 1917	Recom'ended to be appropriated for in Naval Bill 1918	Remaining to be Provided for in Naval Bill, 1919
Battleships	10	4	3	3
Battle Cruisers	6	4	1	1
Scout Destroyers	10	4	3	3
Destroyers	50	20	15	15
Fleet Submarines	9	..	4	5
Coast Submarines	58	30	14	14
Fuel Ships	3	1	..	2
Repair Ships	1	..	..	1
Transports	1	..	..	1
Hospital Ships	1	1	..	..
Destroyers' Tenders	2	..	1	1
Submarine Tenders	1	..	1	..
Ammunition Ships	2	1	..	1
Gunboats	2	1	..	1
Total	156	66	42	48

Mr. John P. White, President United Mine Workers of America, speaking on "Organised Labour and Military Service," said: "Let us keep up our navy. Let us keep alive among us the science of arms through the maintenance of a small expert army. Let us have a thorough overhauling of our military establishment to assure ourselves that our expert military men are foresighted and abreast of

developments. Let us have a plan for the quick mobilisation of men and munitions and supplies.

"Above all, let us reorganise our present military force on a basis that will permit its enlargement, if ever the need arises, without endangering democratic ideals. Leaving aside every other objection, labour will always fight any large growth of our military forces so long as the army and navy are ruled by a class and a caste. The social distinction that goes with a position as officer in the army is one of the most insidious evils connected with militarism. That is why many a man who is a snob and an autocrat and an enemy of true democracy is to-day clamouring for preparedness. It is for them a new sport, a new means of climbing towards social distinction. It is no more dangerous than polo, and the people pay the bills. Give us an army in which any enlisted man of intelligence and industry can hope to attain a commission. Abolish the age limit after which enlisted men are ineligible for examination for a commission. Provide for West Point training for any enlisted man who has ability and who passes certain fair tests."

Eric Fisher Wood, author of *The Note-Book of an Attaché* and *The Writing on the Wall,* says: "Before the present war I was a 'pacifist' and an 'anti-preparationist.' Today I am a 'pacifist' and 'preparationist.' I have yet to meet an American who had the opportunity to see the present war, who is not a 'preparationist' and a 'pacifist.' . . . . When the adoption of military training was under discussion in Australia, the women of

the country violently opposed it and almost defeated its enactment into law. Within two short years, however, they had become its most ardent advocates, for even that brief time had been sufficient to bring out such a marvellous improvement in their sons as to demonstrate its great educational value. . . . . I once saw 'Peace on Earth, Good Will to Men' on the wall of a humble Swiss mountain home; and under it hung the army rifle, which is to be found in every Swiss household. . . . . The Swiss army has impressed me as the most democratic institution in the world. Every individual, be he farmer's boy or the son of a banker, stands on the same footing. Every individual, no matter what his antecedents, must begin as a private in the ranks. Consequently every officer has at one time been a private. Neither birth, social position, nor wealth have any influence in the selection of officers. Officers are appointed solely on a basis of military strength. . . . Some of our self-styled pacifist friends say that we do not need preparation, maintaining that when this war is over, the combatants will be too exhausted to think of attacking any other enemy. But this is not true. Armies are never so effective and nations are never politically so powerful as immediately following long wars. Practice makes perfect. Greece was never stronger than after Salamis and Marathon. Rome was never more powerful than after the Second Carthaginian war. When this war is over, many nations will be in excellent condition to attack us. . . . . Our self-styled pacifists and anti-prepara-

tionists and mollycoddles in general, maintain that weakness and cowardice mean safety, and that preparedness means war. If preparedness means war, then learning to swim means drowning; surgeons are murderers; fire-insurance is arson; and Noah built the ark to bring the flood."

General Stotesbury, Adjutant-General of New York State, says of Compulsory Service: "It is the most democratic system that could possibly be devised. Under such a system none can complain. All are treated alike; all are required to render the same sort of service, to submit to the same system of discipline. Nothing so much increases the spirit of loyalty and patriotism as service. To make every citizen feel that he individually is part of the defensive force of the country would make him justly proud; the physical and mental training and discipline and practical instruction which is part of the education of a soldier today, would make him a more valuable citizen in every way; and the time spent in his military service would be returned to him manifold in increase of efficiency and ability for sustained and disciplined effort in all his subsequent career.

"It is fair in principle, avoids discrimination, excludes conscription as well as the abominable practice of substitution or securing an exemption by payment of a stipulated amount. It makes a better man, a self-respecting man—in all, a better citizen —and we can only become really strong and invincible when every man in the broad expanse of our land can be taught cheerfully to recognise his obli-

gation of service and to take pride and satisfaction in the knowledge that he is a qualified defender of our common liberties and one of the guardians of this glorious union."

Samuel J. Rosensohn, Assistant Corporation Counsel, City of New York, says: "By the New York State constitution, all able-bodied male citizens between the ages of eighteen and forty-five, who are residents of the State, constitute the militia. There is no more danger of our nation becoming militaristic through preparedness than there was that the students of colleges would become ruffians or prize-fighters when the colleges made attendance in the gymnasium compulsory. There is more danger of militarism from unpreparedness than from the maintenance of a sufficient army and navy. Can anyone doubt that any great defeat suffered by this country in war would change this country to a militaristic nation, because the man of the sword would become the national hero, since through him our national rights could most potently be restored?"

When we take a liberal view of our political position with our great neighbour we are greatly helped by the opinion of an old world politician who has had to consider every phase of thought with practically every country in the world. Such an one is Mr. L. S. Amery, M.P., who, civilian though he is, is looked upon as one of the leading authorities in the British Empire on things military. Mr. Amery was for many years connected with *The London Times* and edited *The Times History*

of the South African War; he was in close touch with the late Lord Roberts, in connection with the British National Service League, to advocate the principles of which Lord Roberts devoted his latter days. It is believed there is no one in whose judgment Lord Roberts had more implicit confidence in matters pertaining to this organisation and its doctrine than Mr. Amery.

In 1910 Mr. Amery gave an address at the Canadian Military Institute in Toronto, and in it he said: "But, important as is the part the Canadian Navy may yet play in Imperial Defence, important as it is that her permanent military establishment shall be in close contact with the British regular forces, the really pressing and supreme question for Canada to consider is the organisation of her citizen forces for the defence of her land frontier, a frontier larger than that possessed by any other nation in the world. Now I know there are some people who say of the defence of Canada against the United States—how absurd! What nonsense to talk about that! Now I cannot understand that attitude. As long as nations are separate nations, with frontiers that touch, with economic interests that may clash, they have always got to consider the possibility of war. For my part, I think the friendship of the United States is one of the first things that British statesmanship, and Canadian statesmanship, should always be working for. At the same time we have to remember that although we can be responsible for our own policy we cannot be responsible for the policy of any other country.

We cannot say who may be controlling the destinies of the United States 10 or 20 years hence, or what their attitude may then be towards Canada or towards the British Empire. More than that, International Friendship is most securely based when it is based on respect as well as on mere good will. If Canada wishes to develop her national life in her own way, and to maintain a good understanding with the United States, she must also secure the respect of the United States. Friendliness based on feebleness evokes no certain response. It is Canada's duty to cultivate friendship with her neighbour, and she will do it all the better if she feels confident and capable in her own strength and valour if trouble should come.

"I saw in the paper the other day a criticism on a summary of General French's report, in which the writer takes General French to task for even considering the possibility of an American invasion, and says that the very idea is enough to make Canadians smile. I know Canadians have smiled in the past at the thought of an American invasion. But that was after the Battle of Queenston Heights. I don't think Canadians today can do otherwise than regard the problem gravely and seriously, with an earnest desire to maintain for 100 years more, as in the past 100 years, the friendship of the United States, but with the knowledge that such friendship can be maintained only by mutual respect and by our confidence in our own power to defend our rights.

"As to the method necessary to secure the safety

of Canada, it is not for me to prescribe. Personally, I have always felt that the most effective, and by far the best form of home defence for a free community is that in which every citizen is trained to take part in the defence. Certainly my study of the South African War hammered home into my mind that conviction, and impressed me with the immense defensive strength possessed by a free people whose law is that every citizen should take part in the defence of his country and be trained with that object.

"As for Canada, it is for you and for the people of Canada as a whole to consider what is best for your particular conditions. But I do commend to your serious attention this particular form of defence, which is not only, from a military point of view, the most economical, but which can be made to do a great deal for the physical welfare of the citizens, and which can do even more in promoting a sense of discipline and patriotism. And let me remind you that discipline and patriotism are essential to every country, not for purposes of defence against external aggression only, but also for internal peace and for the growth of material prosperity. It is the absence of these qualities that sooner or later leads to internal trouble, to industrial crises, and social conflict. Only a patriotic and disciplined nation can in the long run hope to be prosperous and contented."

The same authority stated before the National Defence Association in England: "But the Indian frontier is by no means the most serious frontier

problem we have to face. In Canada we have a frontier of nearly 4,000 miles separating us from our greatest potential rival. There are many, I know, who, while admitting the reality of the danger from Germany, will refuse absolutely to face the even greater danger that may eventually arise from the expansion of the United States. I know that the average politician who hates all unpleasant facts will say: 'The Americans are our cousins and friends; war with them is unthinkable! Unthinkable!' There is no such word in international politics. We have been at war with the United States in the past. We have more than once since then been on the verge of war with her—the last time, less than fourteen years ago, over Venezuela. In any case, no statesman has the right, whatever the circumstances, to stake the existence of his country on the hope that the friendship of a foreign country will continue indefinitely.''

In view of the fixed determination of the United States, great and rich as it is, to make itself strong for defence and to keep its military and naval strength equal to the task of defending itself against any nation in the world, and considering these statesmanlike utterances above quoted of Mr. L. S. Amery, M.P., it would be wise to recollect the unlooked for ultimatum of President Cleveland on December 17th, 1895, on the Venezuela situation. The feeling at that time in the United States was very faithfully exhibited by an interview with Major-General O. Howard in Emporia, Kansas, on December 20th, in which, while heartily endorsing

the position of President Cleveland on the Monroe Doctrine, he said :

"The issue is squarely made, and this must be either a fight or a backdown. This country cannot back down, but I do not anticipate trouble. It would be terrible the idea of these two great nations going to war. We are Christians and both worship the same God, and war should not be; but after all, Mr. Cleveland has taken the right stand."

And discussing the event of war with Great Britain, Major-General Wesley Merritt, commanding the department of the Missouri, is quoted in the *Times-Herald* of Chicago, of December 20th, as saying: "We would, I should hope and judge, take the initiative and invade Canada at once, and make that country the seat of war. The immediate seizure of the Welland Canal, to hold it or destroy, would solve at once the problem of the defence of the lake ports. *There is nothing to fear from Canada.* No invasion of our country could be undertaken there. We could overwhelm the country with a force numbering ten to one to anything England could collect or muster, and then not leave our sea-coast unprovided with men to defend every port."

I should like to give one extract from another soldier. It is from an article on the *Lessons of a Decade,* by 2nd Lieutenant and Brevet Captain Frederick Whittaker, who served in the Federal Cavalry during the Civil War. The article appeared first in *The Army and Navy Journal* in 1871, was reprinted in book form, and again reproduced a

few years ago in *The U. S. Cavalry Association Journal.* Under the head of shoeing horses, the author says: "In the winter, both toe and heel calks on all the shoes should be used in slippery ice countries, as Canada. In mud countries they are not necessary. But, as our next war of any magnitude will probably be in the north, our horses will have to be roughed with toe and heel-calks for winter campaigning."

It would be well to recall to mind also the incident of the proposed celebration for the 100 years peace centenary, when after both Great Britain and Canada had made provisions for representation in a common celebration, the manner in which it was viewed by the representatives of the American people was clearly indicated in a despatch from Washington dated June 30th, which appeared in the *London Morning Post* of July 1st, 1914, wherein it was stated:

"By a vote of more than three to one the House of Representatives has shown in a very striking manner the feelings it cherishes toward Great Britain. The opportunity to make this display was given when Congressman Flood, of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, called up a Bill reported from his Committee appropriating £5,000 for the expenses of the Commission to join with similar Commissions appointed by the British and Canadian Governments to celebrate the signing of the Treaty of Ghent and the celebration of the centenary of Anglo-American peace.

"Mr. Flood having explained the Bill and de-

scribed the work being done by the Committees in England and Canada, Mr. Mann, leader of the Opposition, said he saw no sense in celebrations of this character, and sarcastically asked: 'Why not celebrate the day the English burned the Capitol building? Do them honour, do it brown, tell them what great people they were when they marched up to Washington and burned the Capitol building.'

"Mr. Gallagher, of Chicago, a Democrat, made the only other speech. He indulged in the stereotyped attack on England that is heard whenever anything affecting that country comes up in Congress. The proposal for celebration, he said, 'was nothing but a bunco game.' England had never been at peace with the United States. Everyone knew what the attitude of Great Britain was towards their country. 'Talk about peace with America,' Mr. Gallagher oratorically declared, 'talk about England being at peace with any country! She is at peace only when it is to her advantage to be at peace. Who wants this celebration in this country? I know the people in my district do not want it, and I hope that you folks who represent American constituencies will oppose any such movement to spend the money of American people. In the war of religion, Mr. Gallagher declared, England had intrigued against the United States, and also during the Spanish War, and he concluded by asking the House to defeat the Bill 'by a majority so overwhelming and so decisive that its advocates will never have the temerity to call it up again.'

"There was not a man who considered it politic

to answer Mr. Gallagher or to say a word in defence of a friendly country, and the House immediately proceeded to vote, which resulted in 187 members voting against the Bill and only 52 for its passage. As it will now be impossible for the United States government officially to take part in the celebration, it is to be hoped that a movement which was ill-timed and has been mismanaged from its inception will be allowed to drop as quickly as possible."

To justify feelings of ordinary, and if one can properly say friendly, precaution, we may note a despatch from Rome in this present year, dated Rome, via Paris, 17th January, in which it is stated that in a strongly worded editorial, the *Messagero* says: "President Wilson preaches pacifism, but under his administration the greatest military programme, surpassing even that of Germany, has been passed. America is preparing to become the second naval power in the world. American imperialism, after Cuba, the Philippines and the Sandwich Islands and Panama, is now looking at Canada to the north and Mexico to the south." The grant to aviation alone on August 29th, 1916, was for the navy $3,500,000 and for the army $13,281,666,[1] being a total of $16,781,666. And now under war conditions it undoubtedly will grow to something enormous, for the land of the Wright Brothers is not behind the rest of the world in appreciating the fact that aviation has changed the whole character of war.

[1] Just as we go to press it is announced that $60,000,000 was submitted in the estimates to Congress for Army Aviation preparations.

The policy of the United States at expansion seems to be firmly rooted, that their flag follows their trade. In April, 1911, during the debate in Congress, at Washington, on the proposed reciprocity or preferential treaty with Canada, Mr. George W. Prince of Illinois, a representative Republican, said: "I want to say to my neighbours on the north, be not deceived. When we go into a country and get control, we take it. It is our history, and it is right that we should take it if we want it, and we might as well make ourselves plain in discussing the subject. The Speaker (Mr. Champ Clark) has said so, the party back of him has so said, and it does not deny that it is its desire." Mr. Prince in his speech particularly instanced the pouring in of settlers and then annexing Texas and Hawaii, and he might very properly have alluded to the great Oregon country as a notorious historical example.

The loyalty of the American people in perpetuating the outstanding events to their credit, in the history of their country, is most admirable. This is especially marked with reference to their victories in the Revolutionary War, 1776-82, and their attempted conquest of Canada in 1812-14.

Their Capital City of Washington is one great paean to these, from the statues to Lafayette, Rochambeau, Steuben, and Kosciuszko, in Lafayette Square, to the paintings in the Capitol building.

One of the striking paintings at the Capitol is W. H. Powell's "Battle of Lake Erie, 13th September, 1813". As the guide-book says: "It pictures the gallant exploit of Commodore Perry transfer-

ring his colours from the disabled flagship *Lawrence* to the *Niagara,* in the face of a terrible cannonading." It was after the victory here that Perry despatched the famous message, "We have met the enemy and they are ours". This picture though in the most striking place is insignificant beside the great national "Victory Memorial" to Perry unveiled in 1914 at Put-in-Bay, Ohio, the scene of the British defeat 100 years previously. The first two great paintings that strike the eye of the visitors to the Capitol represent the surrender of Burgoyne in 1777 and the surrender of Cornwallis in 1781; and in the House of Representatives Brumildi's fresco of Washington declining overtures from Cornwallis cannot well be overlooked. The Memorial to Paul Jones, "the first American to lower a foreign flag," and the marble palaces nearby of the "Pan-American Union" and of the "Daughters of the Revolution" all help to make for United States loyalty and ambition, with a strong undercurrent of the possibility of history repeating itself. The "Union" palace represents the projected consolidation of 21 American republics with a population approaching 200,000,000, and the other palace is headquarters of perhaps the strongest women's society in the world, numbering some tens of thousands of members.

The history of the expansion of our great neighbour is of interest. The original territory, under the Peace of Paris in 1783, covered the territory east of the Mississippi and north of Florida, and the growth is well illustrated in the accompanying map,

taken from a School History of the United States by Professor Thomas of Haverford College, Pennsylvania. The steady progression in territorial growth outside of the map, in the case of Hawaii and the possessions of Spain, are of course not shown, and who can say how long the word "Mexico" will continue on the map. *See page 116.*

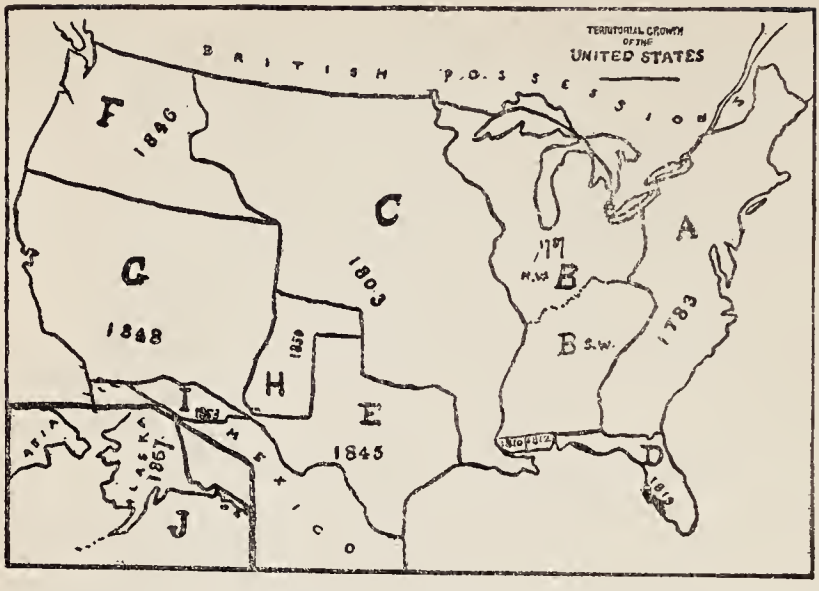
Another map, a "retrogressive" map of "British North America," showing the bites taken out of it by our "Cousins", would not be without interest.

Of this tremendous expansion Homer Lea has to say: "The continuation of this building, and the endless extension of the Republic, the maintenance of its ideals and the consummation, in a world-wide sense, of the aspirations of its founders, constitutes the only pure patriotism to which an American can lay claim, or in defence of, lay down his life."

Judas C. Welliver communicated an important article in the New York press in 1912 in connection with the Mexico situation, and made no bones about saying: "Nothing could be more useful than to get the administration mixed up in a war; the Government with a war on its hands always gets vindicated. People forget everything else when there is shooting in progress."

It will be remembered that immediately after this the militia of the United States was authorised by Congress to be used not only in their own country but to be used also for outside purposes.

The general feeling on the part of some people in the United States is expressed by some verses



A—The thirteen original States which constituted the United States of America.

B—This territory, out of which ten States have been formed was claimed to belong to the thirteen original States; in 1787 a north-west territory was formed of the northern portion, and the rest was known as the south-west territory.

C—This region, formerly known as Louisiana, was bought from France in 1803 for $15,000,000, of which one-fourth was to satisfy claims of American citizens in France.

D—Bought from Spain in 1819, on condition that the United States paid claims of $5,000,000 made by its citizens in Spain.

E—The people (chiefly United States settlers) revolted against Mexico, and it was annexed to the United States in 1845.

F—Great Britain by treaty gave up possession in 1846, the United States claiming it by discovery, exploration and development. They pushed in 7,000 settlers and raised "fifty-four-forty-or-fight" cry.

G—Taken from Mexico by Conquest in 1848.

H—Texas Accession 1850.

I—Gadsden purchase from Mexico in 1853 for $10,000,000.

J—Purchased from Russia in 1867 for $7,200,000. In addition annexation of Hawaii and the Tutuila (Samoan Islands) in 1899, conquest from Spain in Cuba, Porto Rico, and the Phillippines 1898.

by Col. John A. Joyce under the title of *Christian Civilisation*, as follows:

"We will civilise the natives,
And maintain the rights of man,
With bullets and with bayonets,
On a purely Christian plan;
And rob the lands of strangers
Of their silver and their gold,
As our fathers did before us,
And like robber barons of old!

"We are spending millions yearly
Making battleships and guns
To kill our human fellows
From the rise to set of suns;
And teach the kicking heathen
That Caucasins shall hold sway,
And be the ruling power
To the last eternal day!

"We play the jolly hypocrite
For Virtue, Joy, and Peace,
Yet keep our guns in order
To evolve a new increase
Of Powder and torpedoes,
To blow up a dastard foe.
And smash the rule of tyrants,
Through the lands of sun and snow!"

CHAPTER V

MILITARY SYSTEMS

"Stand to your work and be wise
Certain of sword and pen
Who are neither children nor Gods,
But men in a world of men."

—*Rudyard Kipling*

In considering the matter of Military Systems, we might ask what is the first obligation of a man? Surely it is his duty to his flag, to his country, to his women-folk and little ones, even to the extent of laying down his life for the protection of these sacred things, should that become necessary. Then, what might be considered his second most important obligation? Surely it is to put himself, and keep himself, in the best physical and mental condition possible, as a matter of duty to himself and to the state; to make himself fit to play his part in the fulfilment of his first obligation.

To carry out these obligations, practically the whole of the civilised world, in respective states, has enacted that every young man shall offer himself at a certain time of life for training. The training in all these countries takes the form first of physical and then of military training, which is found best suited to bring out those qualities of

discipline and physique that make for the most satisfactory development of the human race, and at the same time prepare each man to play his part in the defence of his flag and country, whenever it may become necessary. This seems only just where citizens are compelled to be educated, to pay taxes, and obey laws. Surely, then, the last thing a healthy male citizen should consider as a matter of condescension is the defence of his home and country.

It may be said that important communities have not believed in this doctrine, that wonderful examples of free choice to conform to these obligations or not, as its citizens may choose, have existed in the British Empire, in the United States, and in China, where training for defence has been a matter of individual choice. The underlying reason why the British Isles and the United States have adopted this attitude is in conformity to what is known as the "blue-water school doctrine," namely, given isolation and the command of the sea, that is all that is necessary for national preservation. President C. W. Eliot of Harvard University, in an article in the November, 1916, number of *World's Work* speaks of "a deeply rooted American policy—the ancient reliance for safety on the physical isolation of the country between two great oceans".

The glory of the British Isles and the pride of all members of the British Empire has been in the grand career of the British Navy, which is so

charmingly expressed in a poem, *The Sea King,* which appeared in the *Pall Mall Gazette*:

"The sea foam made us,
The sea wind weighed us,
And found us true and sturdy, so she
Tossed us to the waves.
The long swell swung us,
The spin-drift flung us
Across the marching breakers as they
Sang their battle staves.

"The mermaids sought us
And wisely taught us
The roadways of the ocean that the
Starry heavens show.
The moon hung o'er us
And set before us
The great law of the waters, how the
Tide-ways ebb and flow.

"The sea birds knew us
And wheeling threw us
A softly dappled feather for the wings
Upon our helm.
The deep sea called us,
The ships installed us,
And we followed, followed boldly and
The wide world was our realm!"

The policy of isolation and naval defence has broken down under the stress of war in the British Isles and in the United States, and obligation for training and service in the land forces, as a war measure, has come to pass. There may still be those who contend that the glorious navy of the British Empire has been the factor which has saved it from Teutonic domination. It would seem, however, that the adoption of obligation for military service re-

futes this claim, and, indeed, it appears certain that had it not been for the universal military service systems of Belgium, France, and Russia the navy of the British Empire would now be fighting a forlorn hope against the inevitable world domination of the Teuton, their fleets backed up by those of Italy, Spain, Greece, and the remnants of the French and Russian fleets, supported by a subservient Europe.

It can hardly be said that China is still in the class of voluntary military service nations, for in January, 1916, they inaugurated a universal service basis, their previous plan for a modern army having provided for 400,000 by 1913, and 1,185,000 by 1920. Eliminating her from consideration, we find that of all countries in the civilised world Canada is the only community which still rests under the voluntary form of military service. She either leads the world or she lags behind all other civilised countries; at any rate, she occupies a peculiar and isolated position in not having adopted and practised the only form of military service which a sane person would admit as providing a serious and practical basis for the defence of the country.

This latter statement I would like to emphasise by again reiterating that, except for those countries who have adopted the "blue water school" doctrine, and have undertaken immense and, as they considered, adequate expenditures to ensure protection by a fleet, the rest of the civilised world has adopted and practised the principle that it is

The World's Armies in 1912 (Before the War).

Country	Military System	Age	Continuous Training in Active Army	Establishments			Cost	Population
				Peace	War			
					Instructed	Available		
Argentine Republic	Militia, Uni. Comp.	20–45	3 to 12 months	21,531	220,000	600,000	$14,545,300	7,121,822
Austria-Hungary	Univ. Comp.	17–36	2–3 years	430,423	1,820,000	3,720,000	109,800,000	49,454,385
Belgium	Militia, Univ. Comp.	20–33	1½ to 2 years	44,560	180,000	.....	14,000,000	7,300,000
Brazil	Conscription	21–44	2 years	29,700	100,000	500,000	27,500,000	20,515,000
Bulgaria	Univ. Comp.	20–46	2 to 3 years	67,400	340,000	.....	8,100,000	4,329,108
Chili	Militia, Univ. Comp.	20–40	6 to 12 months	19,300	80,000	250,000	9,119,000	3,415,060
China	Transition—vol. to obligatory	20–30	3 years	175,000	375,000	635,000	42,500,000	430,214,000
Denmark	Militia, Univ. Comp.	22–38	165 to 240 days	14,100	90,000	.....	5,000,000	2,775,076
France	Univ. Comp.	20–45	3 years	620,863	3,700,000	.....	191,430,000	39,601,509
Germany	Univ. Comp.	17–45	2 to 3 years	677,275	4,700,000	5,700,000	210,480,000	64,925,993
Greece	Univ. Comp.	21–54	2 years	31,488	120,000	.....	4,300,000	2,631,952
Italy	Univ. Comp.	21–40	2 years	250,000	1,650,000	.....	83,000,000	34,947,865
Japan	Univ. Comp.	17–40	2 to 3 years	280,000	1,400,000	4,400,000	47,250,000	67,142,798
Montenegro	Militia, Univ. Comp.	20–62	15 to 60 days	37,000	37,000	.....	50,000	247,000
Netherlands (Holland)	Militia, Conscr'n.	20–31	8½ to 24 month.	23,583	180,874	.....	13,557,500	5,672,237
Norway	Militia Univ. Comp	18–50	72 to 126 days	22,400	70,000	.....	4,500,000	2,392,698
Peru	Univ. Comp.	20–50	2 years	8,000	100,000	430,000	x 3,269,900	4,609,999
Portugal	Militia, Conscr'n.	20–45	15 to 30 weeks	30,000	265,000	.....	9,850,000	5,423,132
Roumania	Univ. Comp.	21–42	2 to 3 years	98,500	420,000	.....	15,000,000	6,966,002
Russia	Univ. Comp.	20–43	3 to 4 years	1,300,000	5,400,000	.....	225,200,000	166,107,700
Servia	Univ. Comp.	17–50	1½ to 2 years	30,000	250,000	.....	6,023,000	2,922,058
Spain	Univ. Comp.	20–38	1 to 3 years	123,000	673,000	1,473,000	37,670,000	19,712,585
Sweden	Militia, Univ. Comp.	21–40	150 to 281 days	84,000	485,000	.....	15,000,000	5,521,943
Switzerland	Militia, Univ. Comp.	20–48	65 to 90 days	213,426	283,426	490,430	* 8,430,000	3,758,293
Turkey	Univ. Comp.	20–44	3 years	281,658	1,000,000	.....	36,000,000	24,028,900
U. S. A.	Militia, Vol	18–45	3 yrs. reg. 7 days	** 209,817	300,000	14,000,000	162,357,000	92,027,874
Great Britain	Voluntary	Vol.	7 yrs. in regulars	† 520,672	922,507	.....	160,000,000	45,600,000
India	Voluntary	Vol.	Regs. & Nat. trps	291,000	.....	.....	100,000,000	316,084,000
Australia	Militia, Univ. Comp.	12–26	16 days yearly	105,000	150,000	.....	12,500,000	4,872,023
New Zealand	Militia, Univ. Comp.	12–30	16 days yearly	54,214	70,000	.....	2,725,200	1,084,662
Canada	Voluntary	Vol.	12 days yearly	66,014	66,014	96,662	9,352,570	7,206,643
South Africa	Conscription	13–25	21 to 30 dys. yrly	20,000	28,000	.....	5,750,600	¶ 1,276,242

*Including Canton Expediture. ¶Whites.

†Including British Regulars in India (74,000). xIncluding Navy. **State Militia included (Some 120,000).

the duty of every young man to prepare himself for the defence of his country, and to defend it when the call comes.

We will now consider in brief the military systems of the world, in order that the above statement may, by the reproduction of actual facts and figures, be substantially corroborated. This can probably best be explained in a tabulated form and it is therefore set forth in this manner.

Where a number of days or weeks of continuous training is given in this table, as in such cases as Chili, Denmark, Holland, Norway, Portugal, Sweden, and Switzerland it is the first year's training, or recruit training, that is referred to. A somewhat detailed account of the systems in vogue in the different countries and the training accomplished in subsequent years will be mentioned, as well as some other facts not included in the table. I will especially allude to certain incidents or information which may have come to my notice and which will assist in arriving at an opinion as to results from the military system in use. By reference to the table it will be remarked that the system of national militia under universal service furnishes a very economical form of military organisation, the most satisfactory example being, perhaps, that of Switzerland, if we take for granted that their army could hold its own in the field under the most modern conditions of warfare.

ARGENTINA affords an excellent example of what can be done by a patriotic people. It is claimed by them that the half million men they can

put into the field in war time are well armed and equipped.

Their law, 4707, provides that every citizen must enter the military service and learn its instruction, and the obligation extends over 25 years, the citizens being divided into 25 classes. From ages 20 to 30, ten classes, from ages 30 to 40, ten classes, and from ages 40 to 45, five classes. The youngest class undergoes a ballot, and those drawing the highest numbers (up to number provided for in estimates), serve for one year in the regular army, those in excess of number provided for in estimates serve for six months. Then nine classes are the reserve of the regular army. Then ten classes form the National Guard and the other five classes form the Territorial Guard. The army of Argentina is composed of—(a) Regular Army; (b) National Guards; and (c) Territorial Guards.

The Regular Army consists of—(1) The Permanent Army, and (2) Reserves of the permanent army; these latter being those who have served their time, the 10 classes of ages 20 to 30 years, volunteers of 16 to 20 years old from the schools or of 17 to 30 years old from the National Guard, those re-enlisting or those who have broken the military law.

The National Guard has its own officers and non-commissioned officers and is composed of citizens of the ten classes from 30 to 40 years of age.

The Territorial Guard is, composed of, first those officers of the territory appointed by their respective Provincial Governments, officers or non-

commissioned officers coming from the National Guard, and citizens belonging to the five classes of from 40 to 45 years of age.

AUSTRALIA.—The Defence Act of Australia of 1910 provides: All male inhabitants of Australia (excepting those who are exempted by this Act), who have resided therein for six months, and are British subjects, shall be liable to be trained, as prescribed as follows:

(a) From 12 years to 14 years of age, in the Junior Cadets; and (b) from 14 to 18 years of age, in the Senior Cadets; and (c) from 18 to 25 years of age, in the Citizen Forces; and (d) from 25 to 26 years of age, in the Citizen Forces. Provided that, except in time of imminent danger of war, service under paragraph (d) shall be limited to one registration or one muster parade. Junior Cadets train 120 hours for two years; Senior Cadets train four whole-day drills, 12 half-day drills, and 24 night drills for four years; Citizen Forces' training begins on the first day of July in the year in which the persons liable to reach the age of 18 years, and is for 16 whole-day drills or their equivalent, and continues for 7 years. Penalty, from five pounds to one hundred pounds, and then perform the training. No employer shall prevent, or attempt to prevent, any employee who is serving or liable to serve in the Cadets or Citizen Forces. Penalty, one hundred pounds; and burden of proof lies with the employer charged with contravention.

In the report he was commissioned to make to the Government of the Commonwealth Lord Kitch-

ener remarked: "The first and imperative principle for the enrolment and maintenance of these men as an efficient (citizen) force is that the nation as a whole take a pride in its defenders, insist upon the organisation being real and designed for war purposes only, and provide the means for properly educating, training and equipping their officers and men. The second principle for a successful (citizen) force is a complement of the first. The force must be an integral portion of the national life. The citizen should be brought up from boyhood to look forward to the day when he will be enrolled as fit to defend his country; and he should be accustomed to practise those habits of self-denial, of devotion to and emulation of his duty, of reticence, and of prompt obedience to lawful authority, which are essential to the formation of patriotic and efficient citizen soldiers."

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.—Requires:—(1) Two to three years' service in the "Active Army." Then "Reserve of Active Army" for 7 years, three trainings each of one month. Then "Reserve of Landwehr," two years, one training of one month. (2) Or a man may go direct to the "Landwehr" for two years; maximum training in Austria 20 weeks; in Hungary 25 weeks. Then "Reserve of Landwehr" for ten years; one training of one month, or (3) to "Ersatz Reserve," training two months, then to age 42 in "Landsturm."

BELGIUM.—There is universal liability to service, but in practice the army on a peace footing consists of about 50,000 men. The war strength

amounts to somewhere about 350,000. Service two years in the "Active Army" and five years in the "Army Reserve."

BRAZIL.—"Active Army," two years, "Army Reserve," seven years, one training of one month. "Second Reserve," three years, one training of one month, or four years with no training.

BULGARIA.—In "Active Army" two or three years. Then "Reserve of Active Army" 18 or 16 years. In the "Territorial Army" service is to ages of 44 and 46.

CHILE.—"Active Army," initial training six months; then "Reserve of Active Army" for nine years, and the "Reserve" to age of 45.

DENMARK.—"Active Army," eight years—initial training six and a half to nineteen months; then "Territorial Army" for eight years with two trainings each of 25 days.

ENGLAND'S first soldiers were a militia. Under Alfred all able-bodied citizens between the ages of 16 and 60 were liable to military service for trouble in, or defence of, their respective counties. About the year 1527 there were commissions registering and mustering persons liable for service, sorting them into bands ("train bands") and exercising or drilling them at the expense of the country. After the Restoration (1660), the supreme authority over the militia was vested in the Crown, but every precaution was taken to prevent its misuse by the Crown. It enjoyed for many years both a constitutional and social superiority over the standing army, the latter

being made up of hired soldiers, and, in case of urgency, from persons conscripted from the vagrant class. Hence in part the prejudice existing against the terms "conscription" and "conscript" to this day. In 1757 the militia system was reorganised. For individual liability there was substituted the liability of the county to furnish a certain number of men of the ages from 18 to 45. Eventually service became purely voluntary. Owing to her vast colonies and her constant wars in all parts of the world Great Britain evolved a military system different from that of any other country. She built up a large expert and very expensive professional army (the best soldiers in the world) to be ready to go anywhere at a moment's notice, and "volunteers," for what purpose was hardly known, as the navy was supposed to protect the British Isles. Seeing great strength and excellency being evolved in continental armies, under their universal service system, the British army began to copy, but without adopting the underlying principle. It was like trying to mix oil with water, hence there was chopping and changing, copying and remodelling in the British military service, heartburnings and recriminations, Royal Commissions and reorganisations, until out of it all came the discovery, by the War Minister, the Rt. Hon. R. B. Haldane (now Viscount Haldane), Barrister-at-Law, of the aim and object of the professional army as being *for overseas purposes,* and the organisation of the Territorials for *home defence.* Mr. Haldane in propounding his new

army scheme in England, gave it as his opinion that the country "will not be dragooned into conscription" (though German pressure has subsequently made the country change its mind!), and "O. S." in *Punch* put the case thus:

O city clerk, in whom the hopes are stored
Of England's manhood, let me talk with you—
With you, whose pen is mightier than the sword
(And far, far safer, too).

Soon you will trip to some salubrious Spa,
Or pluck delight from South-end shrimps and tea;
Flaunting beneath a so-called Panama,
Beside the so-called sea.

There you will blow the expense and softly lie
In some hotel abutting on the brine,
And have your food (en pension) served you by
A waiter from the Rhine.

Him you will treat with well-deserved contempt,
Poor Teuton, seared with vile conscription's brand,
Not, like yourself, a gentleman exempt
From duty to his land.

You are a free-born city clerk, and boast
That you can buy the necessary slaves—
Tommies that undertake to man the coast,
And Tars to walk the waves.

Besides, the leisure hours in which you slack
Are owed to sport—the Briton's primal law;
You have to watch a game of ball, or back
A horse you never saw.

Splendid, *mon brave!* you have a sporting nerve
Unknown to these dull churls of Teuton breed;
Yet here's a man has learned at least to serve
His Fatherland at need.

He sings his *Wacht am Rhein,* and if the thing
Wants watching with a rifle, he'll be there;
When you've invited Heaven to "save the King,"
You think you've done your share.

They've taught him how to march in fighting kit
And drill a likely hole in human butts;
You have no discipline and couldn't hit
A haystack, not for nuts.

His women-folk are safe in their appeal
To his protection when the bullets skirl,
While your "fionsy"—well, I really feel
Quite sorry for the girl.

For this poor "conscript" whom the tyrants grind,
Though he may miss your British freedom's scope;
Yet knows the use of arms, where you would find
Your legs your only hope.

The total army strength in 1912 is shown in the table of the world armies before the war, but the expeditionary force or field army in 1909, which is the last date at which this detailed information is available, consisted of: Combatants, 121,974; non-combatants, 12,099; staffs, etc., 1,275; total, 135,348. In the same year the establishment of the Territorial Army was 302,199, but it showed a shortage of 113,418.

His Excellency the Duke of Devonshire, Governor-General of Canada, made a very significant utterance at a meeting in Toronto on February 24th, 1917. His Excellency said that he had noticed in the papers a little paragraph of great significance. It was to the effect that the army estimates introduced into Parliament provided for an army of 5,000,000 men. The navy estimates introduced the

previous day provided for 400,000 men in the navy. These figures meant that there were actually that number of men in the combatant forces of the Kingdom. All the other tremendous fields of national effort, munition works, shipbuilding, agriculture lay outside. When one considered that out of a total population of 44,000,000 there were 5,400,000 men enlisted in fighting forces, the magnitude of the present effort would be appreciated.[1]

The Morning Post said on July 23rd, 1915: "The ordinary man does not understand a Government which in time of war says 'If you please,' when it might say 'You must.' To the ordinary man, the State gives definite orders in respect of the King's taxes, the education of his children, and the times at which he may drink a glass of beer in a public place; and he is unable to perceive why war is less important than these matters. He may be dull; but there it is!"

"O. S." in *Punch,* again expresses himself on the situation thus:

So when the sudden war-bolt fell,
  We still kept up our games and strikes,
True to the law we loved so well—
  Let everyone do what he likes;
This was a free land; none should tramp
  In conscript lines, dragooned and herded,
Though some might take a call to camp
  If the request was nicely worded.

[1] This means that if Canada raised a force of fighting men proportionally equal to this, her goal would have to be practically one million men for army and navy.

And now we learn at what a price,
  And in an hour how dark and late—
That never save by sacrifice
  Men come to Liberty's estate;
No birthright helps us here at need:
  Each must be taught by stern probation
That they alone are free indeed
  Who bind themselves to serve the nation.

We rocked ourselves in balmy sleep,
  Knowing Britannia ruled the waves,
And while her watch-dogs held the deep
  Never, oh no, should we be slaves,
Others in less enlightened lands
  Had lords to drill and drive and bleed 'em,
But we, thank God, could fold our hands
  All in the blessed name of Freedom.

By that most comfortable word
  We claimed, as only Britons may,
The right to work, if we preferred,
  The right, if so we chose, to play;
Under that flag we danced and dined,
  Lifted the lusty patriot chorus,
And paid a few (that way inclined)
  To go and do our fighting for us.

This was the condition until June 16th, 1916, when the Compulsory Service Bill was passed, which gives the government right to call up all males between the ages of 18 and 41 and to form an army reserve for industrial work.

FRANCE.—Everyone has to serve for three years in the "Active Army" save for physical unfitness. Then "Army Reserve" for 11 years with two trainings of 23 and 15 days; then "Territorial Army" for six years, with one training of nine days, and then "Territorial Reserve"' for six years

with no training but one muster of one day. Every man gives 25 years service to the state. Where there are only two brothers in a family one may be '*ajourné*' until No. 1 has done his time.

Men partially but permanently unfit for active service go into the "services auxiliaries," such as clerks, orderlies, etc.

France furnishes a splendid example of a democratic military system, notwithstanding that its officers are professional soldiers. There were before the war some 20,000 active and 10,000 reserve officers. Each one, however, has to serve his time as a private. The year after finishing his training as a private he becomes a non-commissioned officer for one year's training, then next year a second lieutenant. An officer on the reserve trains every second year for 28 days until obliged to retire for age.

The soldier in France gets only one cent a day, but he is well fed. A high authority in France states that any good man in France will tell you that he looks back on his soldiering time as some of the happiest of his life.

In the connection of pay it must be remembered that under universal military service "pay" in the sense of that given to mercenaries does not exist. It is the privilege of a man to be able to fulfil the duty, placed upon him by the state, of training to fit himself to defend the things most sacred to him in life. Any money given him by the state is not for this service but for little necessaries. If in the class of men taken for this service by the state

some come under it who have persons dependent upon them, this is where the state steps in and assumes a responsibility for the adequate maintenance of those left at home. As an example of the feeling regarding pay I will instance the case of a young French tailor who, after serving a time in the present war, was allowed to return home to attend to his business until required again. In asking him how he managed on his pay of 5 centimes (1c.) a day he said: "It is enough. We are clothed and we are well fed. For 15 centimes (3c.) we buy enough tobacco to last five days and that leaves us 10 centimes (2c.) to the good".

GERMANY.—Two years service (from 20 to 22 years of age) in "Active Army" for all except "volunteers," who are permitted to do their service in one year on passing military examination and other educational tests. These latter provide their own uniform and are at other expenses. Then in the "Army Reserve" for six years (from 22 to 28 years of age), in which the two year man puts in two trainings of 28 and 14 days, and the "volunteer" three trainings of 10, 6, and 4 weeks. Then in the "Landwehr" for five years (from 28 to 33 years of age), with one training of 14 days for the two year man, and two weeks for the "volunteer," the latter being voluntary. Then to age of 45 in "Landsturm". Men are given every possible latitude about the years they are called out to serve in the "Reserve." Some slight variation seems to exist in the lengths of trainings in different kingdoms in the German Empire, such as Bavaria, where

there are, or were (according to an informant), two services in the "Reserve" and "Landwehr" each of 14 days. Though Bavarians do not like being in the German Empire, yet one of them told me "in Bavaria all like to serve in the army".

In Germany the allowance to feed the men is so much a head, and not by weight as with us. One major (called "economy master") per regiment (three battalions) looks after the feeding of the corps, and in big garrisons all the regiments club together and have their own bakeries, slaughter houses, etc.

One has heard so much in time past against the compulsory military service of Europe that I feel it might be of interest to give my impressions from personal observation in Germany and the views of at least one native of the country. Instead of there being any appearance of depression or dissatisfaction on the part of the many soldiers to be seen constantly, whether off duty walking on the streets or marching to or from target shooting, etc., in full marching kit, it would be difficult to find a more robust, cleaner, or happier looking lot of men anywhere or under any condition. Such men as porters in hotels, who had served their time in the active army and were looking forward to notices for their trainings on the Reserve or Landwehr, express no note of dissatisfaction, but on the contrary appear to take great pride and interest in their service and in their certificates and promotions.

A German I met on the train, after a thirty years' residence in England, where he had married

and owned a large business, seemed especially well qualified to judge of the relative merits of the "enlightened" volunteer system of England as against the "barbarous" compulsion of Germany. Strange to say, however, this gentleman is a most enthusiastic advocate of the German system, not only for Germany but for England or any other country. He contends that compulsory military service has been the making of Germany, commercially and otherwise. He claims that it has made her men sober, diligent, cleanly, and systematic, that their military service is the happiest time of their lives. Through it the "physician's bill" of Germany is wonderfully small, and in his opinion it has raised the intellectual welfare and the moral stamina of the whole people. This German gentleman contended that a soldier cannot be made through voluntary drill, for the main object of the German training is to promote endurance. This is done by starting with short marches, then longer, until long marches with full kit are the order of the day. He holds that this training tends to insure good health and the power of endurance. He would advocate this sort of drill for the sake of health and humanity, even if there were universal peace. As a large employer of labour in England he did not like the volunteer system, for many of his men might want to go at once, while if it was obligatory the men would go by turns and the matter of military service be systematised.

The experience of this gentleman in his own country carried the good results from compulsory

military service much further than it might have been expected to go. He observed that the result had been no less remarkable on the habits of the women of Germany than on those of the men. He claims that much of the present day cleanliness and diligence of the German women was due to this cause. On the one hand, their sons coming home from the system and method of military life would make suggestions and then assist their mothers to have that cleanliness which they had been taught as essential in their military service. On the other hand, many women were made early risers by being obliged to get breakfast for the "volunteer" part of the army, who can live where they like, but must turn out at four or five in the morning for early marches, etc. Again, where there is this form of military service, it assisted to mould the minds of men, and he was satisfied that it helps to avoid strikes and assists in promoting intelligence among workmen.

Another explanation of what I had observed was given me by this gentleman. The wonderfully smart appearance of the turnouts strikes one, a condition which I did not remember years ago. He informed me that all advertisements for grooms and coachmen provide that they must have served in the army (cavalry or horse artillery), and I must confess to having seen in Wiesbaden carriages and horses from livery stables which for smartness will sorely press any turn-out that I have ever seen in the prize-ring in Toronto.

Everyone travelling in Germany is struck with

the smart, clean appearance and civility of all railway and post-office officials, street car conductors, motormen, etc., etc. Their manners and bearing is a marked contrast to what we are unfortunately accustomed to under our free and untrammelled volunteer condition.

Captain Ewald Hecker of the German Army, the German Red Cross delegate in the United States, has recently contributed an article to the "Academy of Political Science" which shows the advantage of their military training to a citizen. He says:

"In time of peace the standing army of modern Germany approximates only 1 per cent. The Reichstag stipulates the number of troops required in times of peace and controls the appropriation of the necessary funds. The standing army has never exceeded, as a matter of fact, 1½ per cent. of the total population, as, for instance, in the summer of 1914 the standing army amounted to 1.117 per cent. In a well-organised regiment, it is essential to have representatives of the various trades included in the personnel, which assures a better organisation and independence of the regiment as a complete unit. The other advantage of this system of selection is that it enables a recruit to develop his chosen trade, so that when he retires to civil life again he will have the additional benefit of a thorough training in his chosen work as well as having become a good soldier. For instance, after three years service in a cavalry regiment as a farrier, the soldier receives a certificate, which practically as-

sures him a good position in civil life as the result of the training he has received in that branch while in the army. The same applies to tailors, bakers, carpenters and so on.

"For those to whom the military life is agreeable, particularly non-commissioned officers, as mentioned before, special courses of instruction are available to enable them to develop still further in their military career as well as in general education. Lessons and lectures are provided for the study of languages, mathematics, geography, etc. When they desire to retire into civil life to positions in the postal or railway or revenue service, preference is given. After twelve years of faithful service, a premium of 1,000 marks is given to enable them to start independently in business in civil life."

I have used Germany as an example of results (prior to the war), and must now pass on more briefly to some other countries.

GREECE.—A man serves for two years in the "Active Army," for ten years in the "Army Reserve," then he is in the "Territorial Army" for eight years and in its "Reserve" for ten years.

ITALY.—Service in the "Active Army" is for two or three years, but it is frequently curtailed. Then in the "Army Reserve" (termed "on leave") for 7 or 6 years with one training of 2 weeks, then "Mobile Militia" or "Landwehr" for 3 or 4 years, and then "Territorial Army" for 7 years or to the age of 39. Or, if service is not done in the Active Army, a man is in the Complementary Reserve for 8 or 9 years with training of 2 to 6 months, and then

to the Mobile Militia as above. Or a third class goes to "Territorial Army" direct.

The soldiers to be seen off duty in Italy struck me as particularly clean and smart looking, comparing even favourably with Germany in this respect, which is saying a great deal.

JAPAN.—A man may choose whether he will do his service in the navy or the army. There are two systems of service in the army. (1) "Active Army" for 2 or 3 years, then "Army Reserve" 5 1-3 or 4 1-3 years, with 2 trainings each of 60 days, then "Koby" (Landwehr) for ten years with two trainings each of 60 days, then "Kokumin" or Territorial Army 2 2-3 years with no training. (2) "Hoju" (Ersatz) 7 1-3 years with three trainings of 90, 60 and 60 days, then to "Koby" as above.

The Japanese have the German "one year volunteer" system.

MEXICO is not included on the table, but her military policy is possibly more interesting to us than that of many other countries, she being immediately to the south of our great neighbour, as we are to the north. Mexico, before she started fighting, with a population of some 15,000,000, kept up a peace establishment of 29,904 and could put 146,500 men and 96 guns in the field in war time. Her annual military expenditure was some $25,000,000. She was about to adopt universal service in the near future.

NETHERLANDS.—At 20 years old the majority of the sons of any family (or one-half if there are an even number of sons), must serve for eight

months in the "Active Army" (or 4 months if possessed of a School Cadet Certificate), then for 16 days the next year, and then for 6 weeks for 3 years. Then "Reserve" for 5 years, dismounted branches only, one training each year for 2 weeks. Then "Landsturm." In this service they cannot rise above the rank of a warrant officer.

All officers of the Active Army are permanent officers, graduates of the war college and professional soldiers.

Instruction of boys at school is furnished by the permanent officers, and by the N.C.O.'s who are serving their usual training in the army, and who are paid for this extra work. All officers must have first served the usual Citizen Soldier course, and then they enter a four years' course in the Academy of War, after which they get a commission of lieutenant. They can then rise according to seniority to any command.

NEW ZEALAND.—Compulsory training yearly from 12 to 14 years of age in the junior Cadets, not less than 52 hours. From 14 to 18 years of age (4 years), the senior Cadets, 68 hours. From 18 to 25 years (7 years) in the General Training Section (or the Territorial Force). Training for Territorial Force—30 drills of one and one-half hours, 20 of them to be outdoor parades; 12 half day parades of 3 hours and 7 days in camp, and for the General Training Section 18 drills of one and one-half hours and musketry. From 25 to 30 years of age in the Reserve, 2 half-day muster-parades in each year.

Obligatory service for the present war is in force in New Zealand, all unmarried and recently married men, widowers with no children under 16, or divorced or separated men being a first division of a reserve to the Expeditionary Force, and all other Reservists being a second division of a Reserve to the same. These to be called out by the Governor-in-Council when necessary.

In the debate in the Parliament of New Zealand in 1910 when their Defence Bill, based on obligation was carried by an overwhelming majority of 65 to 3, a member, Mr. Wilfred, said: "If you have some men of bad habits, compulsory military training will uplift them. . . . I consider that a man, whether he be a youth just reaching manhood, or a man in the sense of the word that he has reached the mid-day of life, should be prepared to make some sacrifice for the country of his birth or the country of his adoption. Some men say that they will leave the country rather than be drilled. To such we might well apply the words of Barrington, the convict, when he was transported to Australia:

'True patriots we; for, be it understood,
We left our country for our country's good.' "

NORWAY.—A man may elect to serve at age of 20 years, but general enrolment takes place at 22 years. "Active Army" for sixty years (23-28), "Landvarn" six years (29-34), "Landstorm" four years (35-38), "Landstorm Reserve" to 50 years of age. On showing good cause enrollment can be postponed to age of 25. Trainings:—One recruit training from 72 to 126 days, then three or more

trainings of 24 days in Active Army, and one training of 24 days for Landvarn.

Norway's national militia is admirable. Mr. J. W. Lewis, late 19th Hussars, has contributed a valuable report on it in *A Territorial Army in Being.* Among other things he states: "In Norway it is not only every man's duty but his right and an honour to serve, and not to be allowed to do so is regarded in the eyes of the law as the accompaniment of state punishment in its severer forms. . . . . The Norwegian Landstorm in 1905 manned the frontier within 24 hours of the order to mobilise being given. . . . *A spirit of serious reality* permeates the whole organisation."

PORTUGAL.—Service in the militia is universal and compulsory. The recruit training is from 15 to 30 weeks. It is said changes are to take place.

ROUMANIA.—A reorganisation is in process, but under the present system a man serves in the "Active Army" for two or three years, is on leave for five or four years, in the "Army Reserve" for five years; then "Militia" for three years and "Territorial Army" for four years. For the Calarashi Cavalry the service is intermittent, initial training of 60 days, with subsequent periodic trainings.

RUSSIA.—Even previous to the Revolution, and under Czardom, Russia enjoyed a measure of democracy in things military, in that she had a system of universal military service. Now that autocracy has apparently gone in civil government as well, no

doubt important improvement will also take place on the military side.

It is a strange anomaly that Canada should be the antithesis of old Russia, with a civil government on a thoroughly democratic model, and an autocratic centralised militia administration quite comparable in its irresponsible domination to the late form of government in the Russias. Their military system in brief is:

(1) *European Army.* "Active Army" three or four years; "Army Reserve" 14 years with two trainings each six weeks, then "Territorial Army" five years. *Caucasian Army.* "Active Army" three years, "Army Reserve" 15 years, then "Territorial Army" to age 44. *Asiatic Army.* "Active Army" four years, "Army Reserve," 13 years, "Territorial Army" to age 44. Or (2) To "Territorial Army" direct. *Cossack Services.* Preliminary Training three years; embodied service four years, "on leave" four years, "Reserve" four years.

SERBIA.—"Active Army," 1½ or 2 years, "Army Reserve," 9 years, Landwehr five and "Territorial Army" seven years.

SOUTH AFRICA.—Obligatory service for war 17 to 60, and obligatory training for peace from 21 to 25 years of age, 30 days recruit training the first year and 21 days each other year. Where facilities exist boys between 13th and 17th years of age (both included) may be required to undergo a prescribed course of Cadet training annually.

The Union of South Africa has followed

the lead of the Commonwealth of Australia and the Dominion of New Zealand in adopting a defence system on the Swiss model. Each has, however, made modifications to suit local conditions. With them all the principle has been acted on that it is the duty of a citizen, who is not a criminal or physically unfit, to prepare himself to defend his country should necessity arise. The South African Defence Act of 1912 provides that the liability of every citizen for war service extends from his 17th to his 60th year, both inclusive, and that every citizen must undergo the prescribed course of peace training (30 days as a recruit and 21 days each other year), from his 21st until his 25th year (inclusive). Before the war only 50 per cent. of citizens liable to be trained are to be provided for, unless increased grants allow for more, the remainder being obliged to serve as members of rifle associations for five years.

In urban or other populous areas, wherein facilities for the proper training of Cadets can conveniently be arranged, all boys between their 13th and 17th years (both included) may be required to undergo a prescribed course of cadet training annually. Liability for service applies only to persons of European descent. It is made a duty on every employer to aid in the carrying out of the law, and if he fails to give facility, or dismisses an employee, or directly or indirectly influences an employee against his military service, he is guilty of an offence, and the burden of proof lies upon the employer.

The defence forces are organized into (1) the Permanent Force, (2) the Coast Garrison Force, (3) the Citizen Force, (4) the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve, and (5) any Special Reserve to be established. Owing to the immense native population it is necessary to have some permanent corps. This is provided for by creating five or more regiments of South African Mounted riflemen on the model of the "Cape Mounted Rifles" (C.M.R.), who were created in 1855 "as a Frontier Armed and Mounted Police" and they now rank as the 1st Regiment. A battery of Artillery forms part of each regiment, which has worked so well in the C. M. R.. The Coast Garrison Force includes two corps, the South African Garrison Artillery and the South African Coast Defence Corps. The Volunteer Corps of Cape Garrison Artillery, which, with the Cape Mounted Rifles, did such good service in the late Boer War, constitute the 1st division of the S. A. G. A. The Citizen Force comprises: (1) The Active Citizen Force, (2) the Citizen Force Reserve, and (3) the National Reserve. The formation of a school of aviation and the South African Aviation Corps is also provided for.

The training of the Active Force has been alluded to. The Citizen Force Reserve shall, when called upon, be liable to assemble once annually for inspection. The National Reserve consists of all citizens of the Union who, not being members of any other portion of the defence forces, are liable to render service in time of war. The Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve consists of a body bound to gen-

eral service in the Royal Navy on emergency. A headquarters staff of the defence force, and instructional and administrative staffs for military districts or sub-districts are provided for. A military college is established and, after five years, preference in appointments to commissioned rank in the Permanent Force is, as far as possible, to be given to graduates of that college.

The Defence Act was the outcome of a visit by General Lukin, late O. C., C. M. R., to Switzerland, followed the next year by General Byers, of the late Republican Burgher Forces, who it may be remembered was greeted with considerable cordiality by Emperor William of Germany at the Swiss grand manœuvres of 1912—and who turned rebel in 1914 and met his reward. Besides having taken the model of a practical up-to-date military system as a basis, it must be recognised that South African officers have, during the lifetime of the seniors among them, had the experience of many local wars of no small moment. In addition to the two Boer Wars, the warlike Zulus, Basutos, and other tribes have from time to time proved by their fanatic bravery that they were no mean foes. There are other elements, the result of practical experience in the field, that do not show up in the Defence Act, such as the elastic rendering of military law (to enable control to be exercised on active service), the provision for horsing mounted units, the popularity of rifle shooting, the co-operation between the field artillery and the mounted riflemen, and many other

similar excellent arrangements which stern necessity, and, not red-tape theory, has evolved.

SPAIN.—"Active Army," nominally three years, but actually two years. "Army Reserve", three or four years, with annual training for one month. Then "2nd Reserve" for six years, no training.

SWEDEN.—"Active Army," eight years. Initial training at age of 21 years 150-280 days; then three or two subsequent trainings of one month. The initial service is to be increased to one year for everybody. Then for four years in "Army Reserve," which brings a man to his 33rd year of age. Lastly, for eight years in the "Landstorm".

All officers are permanent who have passed through the war college, but all must have first served as citizen soldiers. These officers instruct in the high schools.

The military system of Sweden has been spoken of by a high authority who said: "If you want to know what a citizen army should be and can be, I advise your studying Sweden. A land of high education and enormous patriotism. These advantages give great results in a short training". It would threfore appear that experts of military systems class Sweden and Norway and Switzerland as the best European models of an effective national soldiery.

TURKEY.—Turkey excludes Christians from the privilege of military service, but takes care to make them pay a military tax in lieu. A partial exemption is purchasable, as is much other official consideration in that country. The service in the

"Active Army" is three or four years. "Army Reserve" is six or five years, with one training of six weeks, then "Landwehr" for nine years, with two trainings each one month, and then "Landsturm" two years with no training.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.—Regular army, three years voluntary enlistment. Recruiting highly unsatisfactory and desertions frequent. No reserves. State Militia ("National Guard") being organised into eight divisions of varying efficiency. Service voluntary[1] and since 1903 the State Militia is part of the National forces. Service in unorganised militia ("Reserve Militia") is legally compulsory for all able-bodied males aged 18 to 45.

The United States have retained, it must be said to their credit, the power of the old Colonial days of calling out their manhood between the ages of eighteen and forty-five for training and defence. Originally, in imitation of the County System in the Motherland, this was an obligatory militia system in the seventeenth century for protection against the Indians. During Revolutionary times the bulk of the Federal Army was composed of State troops, and in 1792 an Act to form a uniform militia was established, which in 1903 was modified to make the militia part of the national forces. Every able-bodied citizen between 18 and 45 is a militiaman in the United States. In 1915 there were 120,693 organised militia (Volunteer). By an Act passed in 1914 these may be called into service by the

[1] Temporarily Selective Draft has been adopted as a war measure. *See pages 88-93.*

United States, but only in the United States and during their term of enlistment. They can, however, volunteer for four years and be available for service anywhere.

Enough has been already stated to convince anyone that if the United States are not going to adopt Universal Military Training and Service at once that it is only a short time before they will do so. Their army has been looking carefully into the matter for some time. In 1911 I met an officer of the United States army who was one of three sent to report on the Swiss manœuvres. Later on, I was very kindly allowed to peruse, at Washington, the reports they made, illustrated with many photographs. The report highly commended what they saw in Switzerland, and recommended for adoption by the United States a military system on the Swiss model. In 1915 the same matter again received attention. The Swiss papers announced that three U. S. Army officers were at Berne to study, with the authority of the military department, matters of military interest in Switzerland.

It is not likely that the United States will refrain from improving their military system for fear of offending Canada. As a matter of fact, they have retained something which we, with questionable wisdom, discarded in Canada at Confederation, namely, the elasticity of State co-operation, which gives them a condition of things comparable to that of the Swiss Canton military departmental administration, but, it would seem, without the same effective obligation to Federal authority for efficiency.

Thus, in case of a sudden war, the individual might of all the great States of the Union, in men, money, and material, would at once be co-operating to raise a great army; and all the many factories of arms and ammunition would gush forth munitions of war.

We may therefore feel a deep sense of thankfulness that the danger that has come to us did not strike from nearer home, for how could one congested centralised department (no matter how enthusiastically confident) have been able to stem the overwhelming tide? It would seem that we have been living in a fool's paradise of self-satisfaction. Surely grave responsibility has been assumed by the two sets of men who, for want of knowledge, have on the one hand, preached against taking any military precautions, or, on the other hand, have assured the people that all the conditions for national safety already existed in Canada.[1]

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[1] In India, the Viceroy has recommended compelling European British subjects between 18 and 41 liable to general military service in India. Men between 41 and 50 will be liable for local service; and all European British subjects between the ages of 16 and 18 will undergo military training. Native Indians to be given the privilege of undergoing military training as Volunteers.

CHAPTER VI

SWITZERLAND

"It is for you to urge upon all the necessity of placing yourselves in the position of an armed nation—a nation such as the Swiss, whose strength lies not in its military organisation, but in the spirit of those who love their country, and are prepared to die for it. In a democratic nation every citizen must be a soldier and every soldier a citizen."—*Lord Salisbury*

From what has preceded it may not seem unreasonable to devote more space to a consideration of the Swiss Military System than to that of any other country. The reason for this is because it is, perhaps, the most democratic, in its fair treatment to all citizens alike, of any military system in the world, yet at the same time its exactions are most stringently enforced. It seems to bring about the greatest results for less money than the military system in any other country, and the fact that, though situated in the centre of the great European conflict, Switzerland has been left alone, is the best possible proof that its neighbours, who know it best, appreciate its power of resistance.

The vitally important point, in considering the Swiss model for Canada, is that it has been evolved by a brave little country for defence against giant nations. Canada has not a large population and should, like Switzerland, have a system to give it

a strong defensive strength in case it were actually invaded by such powerful nations as Germany, Japan, or the United States.

A change in the law in Switzerland in 1907 provided for a longer period of training during the first year for all arms, and a slightly increased total service for all arms, except Cavalry, than previously. This became law by the final vote of the whole people on "Referendum" on November 3rd, 1907, being carried by a very large majority, and it is perhaps one of the best proofs available of the popularity of an intelligently administered compulsory system. In this connection it is well to note that the vote in Switzerland was not upon some untried experiment, but the further endorsation by an enlightened people of a system that they had under trial for 33 years. Indeed, it is stated that the Swiss were, after the English in olden times, the first people in Europe to adopt the system of universal liability to military service. The "militia" system has been in vogue among them for the last 600 years, the definition of this system by Burke being that "*An armed people* is the true constitutional *militia* of the kingdom".

The Swiss Military System has been so markedly successful in giving an efficiently armed and trained nation that the National Service League of Great Britain, of which Lord Roberts was president and Lord Milner is one of the vice-presidents, organised a committee of representative men to visit Switzerland in 1907 and make a report on its military system. Representatives of *The Times,*

The Morning Post, The Tribune, The Daily Telegraph, The Clarion, The Westminster Gazette, and *The Daily Mirror* accompanied the committee. In welcoming them the president of the Federation said, among other things: "Our military institutions constitute at once a basis of democracy, a school of manliness, a school of civic virtue, of self sacrifice and of faithfulness to duty, and with us the obligation (to serve) is considered as the privilege of the citizen."

The report of this Committee was signed by 22 representative men, and it said in part: "The enquiries made by the British Committee, which has recently been enabled by the generosity and courtesy of the Swiss Government to investigate the Swiss Military System, led the Committee to the conclusion that the system is extremely popular in Switzerland, and has produced results of which the Swiss nation may well be proud. It forms an integral part of the moral and physical welfare of the Swiss people; it brings together all classes of the community in friendly comradeship and cooperation in a common cause, and it appears to entail but slight interference with the industrial life of the people."

An average of employees absent from a number of Swiss firms through military duty in 1907, was only 2.17 per cent., and it is arranged that a man's occupation in civil life is carried on in his military service, and indeed he often is taught much of value to him in his usual occupation. The British Military Attaché at Berne, as a result of his experience,

wrote me:—"The Swiss Army is a school for the nation, and, as almost all Swiss in responsible positions will tell you, 'If we had not got the army we should have to invent something to take its place'. The keynote of their attitude is, that it is a free man's right and honour to serve his country, and a disgrace to shirk this honourable duty. Those who are unable to serve owing to physical deficiency are honestly pitied. . . . We want some system of the kind badly all over the Empire, and I trust we shall get it before it is too late."

Were we in Canada working on the Swiss System exactly, we should have over 600,000 armed men, and the total available number of trained men who would fight or work in war time to defend their country would then be more than one million, and the burden per capita to us would be no greater than the Swiss is bearing in his country today. Statistics from Switzerland, Norway, and other countries show that the percentage of the total number of males within the military age serving at one time is surprisingly small, therefore the actual hardship to business, etc., is much lighter than might be expected.

Mr. Thomas B. Donovan, an Englishman, living at Interlaken, Switzerland, and the editor of *Berne Oberland Journal* also wrote me: "The thing which impresses me particularly about the Swiss Military System is that it is eminently of the people for the people. It induces a strong national spirit, without encouraging militarism—

the bane of some countries where universal service prevails. I speak with the experience of four years residence in Germany, where the officer class is one separate from and ranking above every other—a veritable caste. I think it safe to assert that the spirit of militarism is absolutely non-existent in Switzerland, despite its admirable military system. The spirit of democracy pervades the whole. I think England is waking up now, and I shall not be at all surprised if, after the war, something approximating to the Swiss system is introduced."

It is in the belief therefore that Canadians, as a people, will appreciate some details of the very thorough organisation for defence of that democratic and patriotic little country that I give the following somewhat lengthy description.

One reason for this might be that I do not think some features of it can be found elsewhere, but much the more important one is that this system has the underlying principles which were practised in the Canadas a hundred years ago and which led to the saving of our country. It is obvious today that we never should have abandoned them and no people in the world should be as keen to study the model of these abandoned principles, so well conserved and practised in Switzerland, as patriotically inclined Canadians. Moreover, this model is not unlike what the United States have, with greater wisdom than ourselves, conserved in their State Militia Departments.

A new up-to-date organisation was adopted on April 6th, 1911, for the Swiss Army "moun-

tain'' troops in particular being thoroughly provided for.

Switzerland is a federation of 22 little Republics or Cantons,[1] two of which are again split into independent halves owing chiefly to religion. Each of these Cantons and halves, making 24 in all, has its Military Department, and as the basic structure of the whole system hinges on this, I shall describe it somewhat fully.

The Military Departments of the Cantons[2] and the troops in their borders and under their control were in existence before the Federal Constitution of 1874. In the Swiss Federal Constitution the principle of universal military service is laid down. This principle is recognised in the Cantonal Constitutions, but no mention is made of the Military Department in them probably because it was pre-existing. In some Cantons the Military Department is run in connection with the gendarmery, in others with the Public Health, etc. The Canton Military Department is under a Military Director in Chief who is a member of the Cantonal Government.

The Federal military law clearly lays down what troops are Cantonal troops, namely, companies and battalions of infantry, squadrons of dragoons, units and battalions of the Landsturm and the Complementary Services (Pioneers, Medical-personnel, Butchers, Bakers, Wagoners, Clerks, etc).

The Confederation lays down the number of

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[1] Comparable to a Canadian Province.

[2] The Militia Department has recently indicated that a partial adoption of a proper form of recruiting and representation was about to commence. The power of such an organization of militia system goes without saying, and the raising of a force practically unconnected with our existing militia units has been unfortunate.

companies, squadrons, etc., which are to be furnished by each Canton.

The Federal Council, on the advice of the Cantons, makes divisions of a radius within which an Elite Infantry Regiment (or battalion or company) is recruited. These divisions are called "Arrondissements." Each Arrondissement is under command of a Commandant who, on the approval of the Federal authorities, is appointed and paid by the Canton. These Commandants of Arrondissements are responsible for the proper up-keep of the service rolls and keeping track of the men liable for military service, and calling them out for service.

The Arrondissements are subdivided by the Cantons, as necessary, into sections, and each section is placed under the direction of a "Chef de Section," who is appointed and paid by the Canton, and who is under the Commandant of the Arrondissement in which he is in. The "Chef de Section" is like the Australian "area officer," and our old-time "Captain of Militia" in the Canadas.

Each Canton has an arsenal or arsenals for keeping arms, equipment, wheeled transport, and other military stores belonging to the Cantonal units. This is under the command of a Director of the Arsenal appointed by the Canton, which also pays him and any Clerks or Storemen that are needed. The Federal direction of war material delivers to the Cantons the arms, equipment, and war material for Cantonal units. The Cantons furnish personal equipment of Canton and Federal troops and administer and maintain the equipment of

Canton troops, on repayment by the Confederation.

The Cantonal War Commissioners act as intermediaries between the Federal and Cantonal Military authorities in all military questions, and more particularly with regard to the movement of the troops, requisitions for transport, and the keeping of the clothing accounts. The Canton Commissions for shooting in each "Arrondissement" are very important bodies.

Cantons exact from all citizens at the right age for military service, either resident or living temporarily in the territory, a proof of military service. The service booklet is taken as sufficient proof.

The Cantons hold the list of the men liable for military duty; these registers form the base of all military control. They also keep the lists of the men attached to Complementary services.

The Cantons nominate the officers of the units, and also of the staffs of Fusilier Battalions, formed within their borders.

The calling out for service is done by the Canton under orders of the Federal Council, and they issue orders only to Cantonal troops. Requests for exemption from service are treated by Cantons for their troops. When a Canton does not fulfil its obligations, the Confederation does it and charges expense to the Canton. The Canton cannot tax public works for defence purposes, or bicycles or motors when employed for military purposes. The Cantons collect the military tax and turn over one-half to the Confederation. The Cantons dispose of the

fighting force of their own territory so long as the Confederation has not disposed of them.

The Cantons are at the expense of any Cantonal calling-out of their troops, and the pay, food, and housing of the troops are undertaken by the Canton in conformation to Federal rules.

The Communes[1] are directly under the Canton and send in to the Canton Military Department a copy of their horse lists. Owners of horses in a Commune must bring them to an appointed place of assembly twice a year and have the horse list checked over. This is done at once in case "standing picket" is ordered.

The Canton sends to the Federal Military Department a summary of Canton horse lists.

Besides making and keeping horse and wagon lists, Communes and inhabitants must furnish to men or horses lodging and food, and places for wagons to park, and must also accomplish required military transportation. They receive an equitable indemnity. Communes must furnish without charge:—

1. Offices for recruitment, for medical inspection, and for the inspection of arms and personal equipment.

2. Offices for staff, guards, prisons and hospitals.

3. Places for assembling troops and localities for mobilisation.

4. Ranges for shooting, and for this they can expropriate under a Federal law.

[1] Comparable to a Canadian County or Township, or they may be said to represent the two rolled into one.

The supplying of all personal equipment by each Canton to all troops within their borders (on repayment from the Confederation) is a great assistance to local industries. The quality of the materials used must be approved by Federal inspection, and practically everything is made up locally, either at the Canton Arsenal or elsewhere, and then taken into store by the Director of the Canton Arsenal.

The military cost to the Canton varies from a surplus of 1,767 francs in 1912 to the Canton of Geneva from large receipts of military tax, to varying amounts in different Cantons. For example, Vaud, the third largest Canton, had a net military expenditure for 1913 of some 80,000 francs ($16,000), and the same year Geneva's expenditure was 4,097 francs, it being the seventh largest Canton. If we took the mean of this for 22 Cantons we have less than a million francs ($200,000), which sum might quite safely be estimated as the maximum total annual expenditure for all the Cantons for the Swiss army.

As an indication of the personal feeling of a Swiss I cannot do better than quote from a paper by Mr. T. A. Christen, a former officer in the Swiss Army now resident in the United States, who states: "The Swiss military system is based upon the fundamental principle of obligation for all, and on common sense, uninterrupted effort, and the hearty co-operation and approval of the entire nation, combined with and re-enforced by the most intricate and painstaking attention to details. . . .

The Swiss military system is simple and at the same time inexorable. The military resources and the strength and characters of our four neighbours as revealed by past history, the political and governmental ideals and customs of the Swiss nation, and its limited financial resources, made necessary a military system that in its simplest expression should aspire to the following cardinal desiderata:

1. As large an army in proportion to the number of inhabitants as possible, through universal obligatory service in accordance with the traditions of our forefathers dating back over five hundred years.

2. As thorough training as the short time allotted by the will of the nation permits and the financial resources of the country justify.

3. Speediest possible mobilisation through complete organisation and territorial formation of the units.

4. Encouragement of all efforts to foster the military spirit in the nation.

"Let us see how it works. When he reaches his nineteenth year the young Swiss is examined for fitness. He has to appear before a committee of experts who travel around to the remotest districts. On a date long before advertised, the young man presents himself. From their earliest youth, the young Swiss have a goal before their eyes—their nineteenth year. Something occupies their mind and consciousness that does not consist in selfish satisfaction of their own wishes, but which brings before their eyes something honourable, yet at the

same time demanding sacrifice in time, effort, fatigue, and subordination of their own wills to the will of a qualified and legally appointed superior. This looking forward to their nineteenth year makes with all the boys of the same age for a species somewhat of solidarity. It creates a collective feeling—not collective in the sense of social class, wealth, or education, but collective in the sense of a duty before them which they have to perform together. The same expectations, hopeful and otherwise, permeate their consciousness. They give their thoughts and aspirations something of earnestness which prevents indulgence in thoughtless frivolity.

"At the age of twenty the first training or recruit service, in which a raw recruit is molded into a full-fledged soldier, begins. The recruits of a district assemble in sufficient numbers to organise a full infantry battalion. The recruit course takes place in barracks and lasts, for the infantry, sixty-seven days, including one day of entry and one for dismissal; for the artillery, seventy-seven; for the cavalry, ninety-two, and for the medical corps, sixty-two days. The training is gone through with great energy. In the course of many years, a system has developed which brings out of the men in a minimum of time a maximum of results. No time is lost with unnecessary frills or playful games. The young men are there for one purpose only, and that is to receive military training at the least cost in time to them and money to the state.

"The day begins in summer at 5.30, in the cavalry at 3.30; they work until 11.30, then eat and clean

up and rest until 1.30, and work again until 5.30. The men receive ample food and their night rest is long enough for they must be in at nine. Their treatment is good, not harsh. The chief demand is willingness.

"The training is practical and thorough and up-to-date. Shooting, marching, outpost duty, entrenching, and manœuvring, under day or night-time conditions, in squads, company, and battalion, are practised together with drill gymnastics, and last but not least, discipline, that is, the virtue of co-operation with others for a common goal, singly or in masses. The moral training in soldierly honour, and truthfulness, is not less important than the acquisition of physical stamina and technical knowledge, and some of this the recruit will take back into civilian life. And what practical lessons in democracy does he not receive? Class distinctions are abolished; all are wearing the same clothing, live in the same rooms, eat the same food. The son of the wealthy and the poor, perhaps for the first time, are on absolutely equal footing; no distinction is made as to their ancestry or social standing. They are put into the ranks according to height, and not according to individual wishes or the whims of mutual attraction.

"Their military superior may in civilian life be their inferior, but while in service, honour and obedience is due them according to their rank. There are no classes, only grades; no social, only military distinctions.

"The military training these men receive has

been to many their making. Many a man has been brought out for the first time according to his merit. Those over-estimated at home will be found out. Bashfulness and shame will not go. Many a man comes home with new resolutions. He has formed acquaintances which establish his standing and which he will have to live up to; he has seen the light for the first time as to his duties towards others, and his position in the whole, his importance as an individual, and as a part of the state.

"After this original recruit-service the young man is a full-fledged soldier, and takes his uniform, his rifle, bayonet, sabre, and revolver and whatever his equipment is, home with him. In the cavalry, even his horse is acquired by him at one-half of its value, and he takes it to his stable on the farm.[1] For only such young men are taken in the cavalry whose fathers, or who themselves, have stables and facilities to keep a horse. This naturally limits the cavalry to the farmers. This is a distinctive and unique feature, which as far as I know is not found anywhere else. It is based on traditions of centuries, for the Swiss have always been armed and have kept their arms in their own hands. It is an evidence of the great confidence the government has in the individual for the proper care of this valuable and expensive equipment. But the confidence is fully deserved and the quick mobilisation which was possible through the fact that every man was able to present himself fully equipped and

[1] Translation of Swiss Horse Regulations in Transactions No. 21 of Canadian Military Institute.

armed, justified the measure a thousandfold. The man is personally responsible for the condition of his equipment and annually on a certain day in his immediate neighbourhood it is inspected, and whatever has not been well taken care of must be replaced at his own expense.

"The recruit, on leaving his recruit battalion, is then enrolled into the battalion of his own home district. The Swiss military system is based upon the territorial principle, that is, the units are formed of men in a contiguous district. They are assembled in that district where they have grown up or where they are living and which they know thoroughly. Upon his return home he takes off his uniform, and after an absence of just sixty-seven days in the infantry, and that is the majority, he takes up again his work or his studies as a civilian, and he is a better man in every respect, physically developed, intellectually more alert, morally with an added sense of responsibility, and spiritually filled with pride over a task well performed.

"His duties as the defender of the nation are, however, not over. From now on every year until he is twenty-seven—that is, seven times—he has to serve thirteen days a year with his regiment, in so-called repeat service and in manœuvres. The repeat service is in the smaller units and is devoted mainly to the training of the individual soldier under his immediate N.C.O. and officer. It alternates every other year with regular manœuvres. These manœuvres are in large units, as large as army corps, and they are so warlike that only the shoot-

ing of actual bullets would be required to bring about the dire reality of actual warfare. Long marches, rainy nights spent in deep trenches, outpost duty on high mountain passes, and heavy equipment on their shoulders and backs. These manœuvres furnish an opportunity to the commanders and to the administration, and to the staff officers, as well as to the railroads, to be tested as to their efficiency and readiness. The army in manœuvres have their own bread furnished them from the army bakeries that are erected at the base of supplies in the rear of the army. The meat cattle are slaughtered by army butchers, and bread and meat are carried forward to the units on requisitioned wagons, just as in war time. The Staff and commissary officers of each unit must see that their supplies get there in time, for if they do not, the men have nothing to eat, just as in war time. Moving kitchens on wheels follow each unit. In villages occupied, the soldiers take shelter in whatever building they need, and the medical corps establishes dressing stations for the troops and hospitals in the rear, just as if on the morrow a big battle were going to take place and thousands of wounded were to pour in upon them. There is nothing except actual warfare that is more soul-stirring than these manœuvres which are really annual mobilisations not complete over the whole extent of the country nor of all age classes, but mobilisations over part of the country, of part of the ages, and while all of the men are not mobilised annually, the material, equipment of units, cannon,

supply train and bridge-building supplies are annually taken out of the store-houses and put to the test. If anything is missing or destroyed it at once is replaced or repaired.

"Now we come to the training of officers and N.C.O.'s, and as every young man is a recruit in the ranks, all the officers have started their careers from these ranks. Therefore, an aristocratic corps of officers that had its training away from the ranks in some secluded officers' college does not exist. It is one of the elements making for democracy in the army and the nation. The young men who in their recruit service have shown greater interest and talent for executive ability, are asked to become non-commissioned officers and commissioned officers. Great care is taken in their selection, as the acquisition of a grade entails great sacrifice, not only in effort, but also in money and chiefly in time, and as acceptance of the call, formerly optional, now is obligatory, no one is asked to assume the burden whose shoulders are unable to carry it. They are selected mainly from among the educated men of Switzerland, and among them are found the leading men of every profession and business.

"Their career for higher degrees begins at the special training course for corporals. This training course lasts twenty-two days. After this short course the young corporal has to go now as a corporal to a training course for recruits, and he at once becomes the instructor of the new recruits in a responsible position in the same way as in his own recruit course his superiors were his instructors.

He learns the practical handling of men at once. After that he serves as a corporal in his home battalion when his home regiment assembles. The future officer, after completing his training as a corporal, goes through a training school for lieutenants, which in the infantry and cavalry lasts eighty-two days, in the artillery and engineer corps one hundred and seven days. There he acquires all the knowledge necessary for a lieutenant—army organisation, map-reading, commanding, hygiene, and all the technical military knowledge that is necessary for a young officer. He then returns to a recruit course where he at once handles and trains young recruits as a lieutenant. In this way both the officers and N.C.O.'s in the shortest time become responsible instructors and leaders of their men. The training might be longer, but it certainly is not too long for these young men to stifle their energy and enthusiasm by too tedious and impractical studies.

"He is put on his own feet as a practical instructor, moral teacher, and military leader of his men, the men he would lead in battle, and is at once held responsible to his superiors for those under him. The leading men in the Swiss army seem to consider now after the experience of the long mobilisation that the theoretical training of the young officers is sufficient, that what is needed is still more service with the men, not away from them.

"Afterwards the young lieutenant, after a total of 241 days of instruction of the most intensive kind, is assigned to some troops, preferably to the

home regiment of his neighbourhood and district in which he lives. From time to time he has to go to some special course before an advancement. No one is allowed to attain a higher degree without having passed through service in the lower, and having suitably qualified for the higher. In the course of years he will become a captain, a major, a lieutenant-colonel, and a colonel, and successively command larger and larger units, but in between his time of service he always enters civilian life again, just as much as his N.C.O. and simple soldiers do; only more frequent and longer periods of service and higher requirements distinguish his duties from those of the rest. He is a civilian most of the time and an officer part of the time. It is only in the higher degrees that the officers have to devote all of their time to their military duties and where they have to leave civilian life altogether. Let us see what is asked of a simple soldier of the Swiss army serving in that branch of the army which always must be the most numerous—the infantry. At his nineteenth year, he spends one day in physical examination; in his twentieth year, sixty-seven days in recruit service; from his twenty-first to his twenty-seventh year, seven times thirteen days of repeating service and manœuvres—ninety-one days. Hereafter in the Landwehr, once repeating service—thirteen days—and an annual inspection of clothes and arms, each of one day during the years in which he has no repeating service up to his forty-eighth year—twelve days; that is a grand total of 192 days. In addition, if armed

with a rifle, every year he has to practise shooting under the supervision of local shooting societies, which receive a grant from the government for rifle pits. He has to shoot thirty shots at the target. This is usually done some Sunday morning, takes about two hours of his time all told, and interferes in no way whatever with the man's occupation. The full extent of sacrifice in time to the simple soldier, that is, the labouring man, the farmer, the school teacher, and the large majority of men in general, is one hundred and ninety-two days —or one-half year altogether—in thirty years, and the only really long continuous period of sixty-seven days is in one year, his twentieth, when his responsibilities are light and when as yet he has no family to support. Truly this is not a sacrifice of forbidding magnitude.

"What is asked of the man who is not found fit to serve in the army? Does he simply avoid the universal obligation he owes to the country without anything being asked of him? "No," the Swiss say, "if he cannot serve in the army he has to help support it." He is therefore made to pay a small tax, $1.20 a year for men of small means (this tax during this war time has been doubled), rising with the means, earning capacity and financial standing of the man or his parents; this tax does not yield a large sum; it has been instituted much more to emphasise "a universal obligation." It goes without saying that only physical unfitness frees from the rank; no influence whatever can interfere with the findings and decisions of the examining committee.

either for or against exemption, and no option exists to substitute the military tax for actual service. This tax is quite a distinctive feature of the Swiss military system."

Following the school training, which is treated of in the chapter on "Training for Boys," a Swiss youth at 19 years of age comes under the requirements of the military law when he receives his little service book. This little book is of a strong vellum-paper, and, as entered up officially from time to time, it is a complete record of his military service to his country.

The Swiss comes into the service in the year in which he is 20 years old.

Elite.—He is then in the Elite until the end of the year in which he is 32 years of age. In this time he puts in his school of recruits and seven (Cavalry 10) annual trainings and five inspection of arms. Lieutenants can remain in the Elite until 34 years old, captains until 38, and superior rank up to 48.

Landwehr.—The soldier then passes into the Landwehr (1st Reserve), where he remains until the end of the year in which he is 40 years of age. During this time there is one training, infantry 13 days, other arms 14 days, and cavalry 0 days, and seven annual inspections of arms, etc. Captains remain in it until the end of the year in which they are 44 years of age, and superior rank to 48.

Landsturm.—The soldier then passes into the Landsturm (2nd Reserve). This comprises all men liable for service not serving elsewhere. They pass

from all liability of service at the end of the year in which they are 48 years of age. During this time there is an annual inspection of arms and effects. Officers can remain in the Landsturm up to 52 years of age.

Officers of superior rank in the Elite or in the Landwehr may remain beyond the age limit.

Military Tax.—This amounts to over $800,000 per annum, one-half of which goes to the Confederation and one-half to the Cantons. It applies, without exception, to every male not taking in the military training imposed by his age. Minimum is $1.20 and a supplementary property tax. Above $200 value, 30c. on each $200 value. Above $120 net income, 30c. on each $20 income. Maximum annual tax $600. Men 33 to 42 years of age (Landwehr age) only pay half. No tax above that age.

The table on page 174 will give the periods of service in Switzerland under the law of 1907.

Instruction and Training

Recruit Schools.—For Infantry there are eight or more schools throughout the country, for Cavalry three, for Artillery four, for Engineers two, and for Fortress Troops two. The schools are substantially built barracks. After passing medical examination the recruits are called up, in batches not exceeding 500 for Infantry, 200 for Cavalry, and 170 for Artillery, being formed into a provisional battalion for Infantry, or two batteries for Artillery, or two squadrons for Cavalry, or similar units for other arms.

The officers and N.C.O.'s of these provisional units are composed of those taking the course to qualify for a step in rank.

Instructional Schools.—Officers and N.C.O.'s come through the ranks. They then have to attend special courses for each grade, and to act in each in a supernumerary capacity to show their fitness

	Elite 187,460 Strong, organized in 6 divisions							Ladwehr 74,148 Strong					Landsturm 70,000 armed, Unarmed 207,000		Totals	
	No. of Days' Recruit Training at Age of 20	Age at Completion of Training	Age of Transfer to Landwehr	No. of Courses	Length of Course in Days	Total Days' Training	Annual Inspection of Arms	Age at Transfer to Landsturm	No. of Courses	Length of Course in Days	Total Days' Training	Annual Inspection of Arms	Annual Inspection of Arms	Age at which Liability for Service ends	Days of Training	Days of Inspection of Arms
Cavalry.....	90	28	30	8	11	88	2	40	..	..	..	10	8	48	178	20
Artillery and Fortress troops	75	27	32	7	11	77	5	40	1	11	11	7	8	48	163	20
Engineers....	65	27	32	7	11	77	5	40	1	11	11	7	8	48	153	20
Infantry.....	65	27	32	7	11	77	5	40	1	11	11	7	8	48	153	20
Medical, Supply, Transport, etc.....	60	27	32	7	11	77	5	40	1	11	11	7	8	48	148	20

NOTE:—(In above figures the days of going in and coming out of service each year are not counted; 2 days for Inf., and Cav.; 3 days for all other arms and services.)

While in the Elite and Landwehr service shooting in a rifle club must be performed without any pay each year.

before being promoted, namely a corporal will act as sergeant, a lieutenant as captain, etc.

There are courses in the following schools—(1) Schools for N.C.O. (2) Preparatory schools for officers. (3) Special schools (or courses for the different arms). (4) Central schools. (5) Classes of military instruction at the polytechnic.

Non-Commissioned Officers.—To be a corporal a 22 days' course if Infantry, Medical, or A.S.C., or 37 days' course for Cavalry, Artillery, Engineer, or Fortress troops, has to be taken at school (1) and an extra school of recruits as Corporal.

To be a sergeant, in addition to above, two more extra repetition courses have to be taken, making in all 128 days.

To be quartermaster-sergeant, a 32 days' course at School of Q. M. S. is added to this, and an extra recruit school, making 227 days.

For Squadron or Battery sergeant-major or colour sergeants, an addition School of Recruits to requirement for sergeant, making 195 days.

And for sergeant-major the last 22 days of a Recruit School in addition, reaching a total of 217 days' instruction and training.

Officers.—To be a lieutenant a man must have been through a Recruit School and a N.C.O. School (1) above, and have been at least a corporal. Then an extra Recruit School and an extra Repetition Course (training) acting as an officer, and then 82 days' course at school (2) above. He can then be recommended as lieutenant with 251 days' training, at 22 years of age.

To be a captain he must have put in, in addition to this, an extra School of Recruits and a course of 32 days at school (4), above—No. 1 grade—for 1st lieutenant of all arms, then a School of Recruits course acting as captain, then nine Repetition Courses (some of which may be replaced by patrol or technical courses), bringing it up to 534 days'

service before he can be appointed captain at an average age of 29 years.

Then to be major, there is, in addition, a Musketry course of 13 days for staff-officers and captains of all arms, a course of 52 days at school (4), above—No. 2 grade—21 days of the last part of a recruit school, commanding a battalion, has to be taken, then seven Repetition Courses, bringing a total training of 690 days, to be appointed major, at an average age of 37 years.

To be lieutenant-colonel, in addition to above, 26 days at bi-annual tactical exercises for superior officers, and then four repetition courses (trainings) with his battalion, making 789 days' training before appointment of lieutenant-colonel commanding a regiment, at an average age of 41 years 9 months.

For recommendation to be colonel-brigadier, two further bi-annual tactical exercises of a total of 26 days for superior officers, and four Repetition Courses with his regiment, must be taken, making 867 days' training, and arriving at an average age of 45½ years, before appointment takes place.

When an officer by his zeal and ability has worked his way up to a position where the command of a Division or Fortress-garrison can be offered him, he must then be willing to give up all his time to soldiering. The annual pay is as follows: Commandant of an Army Corps, $2,000, of a Division, or of St. Gothard Fortress-garrison, $1,600, and of St. Maurice Fortress-garrison, $1,200.

The annual series of courses of instruction are

set forth in a pamphlet published each year by orders of the Federal Council. The list occupies some 55 pages, ending with lists of tactical exercises for captains and superior officers and exercises for staff officers.

The general plan of training with remarks will be found in the chapter on "Comparison and Cost."

The sad lesson from the above to us Canadians lies in this, that, under our military system, a man could not take advantage of the military educational facilities of the Swiss, even if they existed, and spend the endless amount of time and money in finding and keeping recruits, which we have to do in Canada, unless he gave up all idea of earning a livelihood. A stroke of the pen fills the Swiss ranks, and, an excellent thing, they have only one establishment, their ranks are always on a war footing, they have only a war strength. I should not be surprised if it is a fact that a Canadian officer or N.C.O. really gives up more time, and is at greater expense, in trying to "wet-nurse" men into the service under the Canadian system than his brother-Swiss under his system; but what a vast difference in the result of efficiency as obtained for the country!

The organisation of the Swiss army can be seen very well in the table of troops in the chapter on "Mobilisation."

The Territorial and Communication Services are well worth attention. The Territorial Service and the Communication Service perform the work of keeping the army in the field supplied with all it

requires, and the protection of the communications in the rear of the field army. The officers employed in these services consist of the railway section of the General Staff branch, officers of all ranks of the various arms not otherwise employed, and General Staff secretaries of the rank of lieutenant. The troops allotted to the above services consist of the Landsturm units formed in the different territorial districts and of the line of communications battalions.

The service of Military Justice is carried out by retired officers who have a knowledge of military law. They are appointed by the Federal Council. The service is thoroughly organised, and anyone can appreciate the advantage of having Military Justice administered by permanent tribunals.

The Swiss army is entirely a National Militia—a patriotic people-in-arms when danger threatens—who, under normal conditions, are civilians attending to their duties as citizens. There is no standing or permanent army. There is, however, a corps of instructors of a little over two hundred.

To be nominated as an instructor a man must be already an officer in the army, and as such have attended a school of recruiting and a course of repetition, have passed matriculation at the University, and be in good physical condition. The Medical and Army Service Corps have slightly different regulations. While still an aspirant, the candidate attends a three months' theoretical and practical course on the business of instructing, and he is also obliged to attend the regular military

courses at the Federal Polytechnic School and serve in the troops, to prove his aptitude for the work as an instructor. In the past the instructors took part in the repetition courses (trainings) as such, but now they only direct the instruction of the recruits and the qualification for steps in rank, the sole instruction and direction of the troops in the trainings being in the hands of their own officers. However, to prevent narrowness, the instructors continue in their branches of the service in the army and get their promotion and follow their duties like the other officers. At the head of the instructors of each arm is the Chief of that arm in the Military Department. A district instructor directs the instruction of the recruits and qualification for rank of the infantry in each district of a of a division.

The pay of instructors is from $1,040 to $1,460 for superior officers, $850 to $1,160 for captains, and $750 to $960 for subalterns. Even with the handful of instructors in Switzerland, compared with our 262 officers and 2,740 other ranks of the permanent corps in Canada, there are nevertheless signs of a feeling indicating the delicate position of the professional soldier element in their militia army. In their National Council a member "complained that the army is more and more directed by a military caste and that we have no longer the integral militia system. There is a conflict between the militia officers and the permanent officers who are sustained by the government."

The following table shows the Corps of Instructors: —

	Inf.	Cav.	Art.	Eng.	Fort.	Med.	A.S.C.	Total
Chief of Arms	1	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	3
District Instructors and Commandants of Central Schools and of Shooting	8	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	8
Superior Officers	57	7	9	2	4	5	2	86
Captains	31	5	8	3	2	3	3	55
Subalterns	10	3	7	2	8	1	.....	31
N.C.O. Instructors	.....	.....	13	5	.....	5	.....	23
Instructors — Trumpet and Drums	18	2	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	24
Instructors in "service reduit"	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	.....	3
Total	124	17	41	12	14	17	5	233

Not more than a quarter of the "personnel" of the Corps of Instruction, not including such officers of the general staff as belong to the corps, can be incorporated in the army. This provision is intended to ensure that in mobilisation a sufficient number of instructors may be available both to train the recruits, who would be called in, and also to fill vacancies in the higher commands, *as well as to avoid the introduction of the professional element into what is purely a Militia Army.*

The Swiss Army was well armed and equipped, but in the light of recent experience they lack heavy guns and machine guns, and whether their very excellent Government Munition Plants could cope with requirements would remain to be seen.

The Cavalry Remount Department employs some six or seven officers, 110 rough-riders, and 200 stable-men. It is almost a separate organisation and of peculiar interest. The same can be said of the Horse Regie, which employs some 200. The

provisions for the supply of all horses that are in the country are excellent. This will have been observed under the account of the mobilisation, and further details, as well as a translation of the regulations relating to Cavalry horses can be found in the transactions of the Canadian Military Institute, 1913-15.

Though the service is obligatory, I have questioned both officer and man, who in private life are very busy, and they have invariably informed me that they enjoy the service and do not wish to leave it. One of the former, an officer, the head of a prosperous business, seemed so much occupied with his affairs that I asked him if he did not find Clause 10 of their Act (compelling acceptance of promotion) very trying. He replied: "No, we have no difficulty about having a resignation accepted as there are always others quite willing to take our places. I find the recreation and exercise good for me, and even though I have to take many qualifying courses I like the service and shall remain in it until my age is up."

That service as an officer demands self-sacrifice in Switzerland, as well as with us in Canada, goes without saying. In a militia this must always be the case. Another Swiss officer, now commanding a company, informed me that while there were sufficient officers available for the higher ranks, yet many married men went no higher than lieutenant. This officer happened to be a bachelor and one of the very leading lawyers. The year I saw him he lost three months' business in connection with his

qualifying for captain, and the next year expected to sacrifice some 200 days to qualify for the general staff. He shrugged his shoulders when he admitted a sacrifice of thousands of francs, but he said: "It is my duty to my country, and our trainings in the mountains are the best holidays one can have. Indeed," he added, "our military service is such a mental change and diversion from civil professional work, to say nothing of physical benefit, that I would not be without it for a great deal more money than I lose through it."

Several hotel proprietors I have met are officers. One seemed to take much pride in the fact that he commanded the same battalion which his father and grandfather had commanded before him, both of whom had been proprietors of his hotel.

Of the soldier class, I spoke to a young married man, with one little child, who was off for his annual training in a few days, leaving his young wife and child. When questioned about serving, he said it was only 13 days and he enjoyed it. I asked whether his wife liked his going away, and he replied something to the effect that she was a good Swiss woman and was glad that he should do his duty to his country.

It will be recollected that during the time a Swiss is amenable to military service a man in the Infantry, for example, *only serves an average of eight days a year, including inspections of arms and effects.*

CHAPTER VII

TRAINING FOR BOYS

"There's life alone in duty done
And rest alone in striving!"

—*John Greenleaf Whittier*

As a text for this chapter I would state as an axiom that the practice of universal military training in a country raises the national efficiency one hundred per cent.

Hinged with this are general considerations connected with the matters of national health, physique, and discipline. "Health is only another word for the discipline of the body, and the physical advantages that accrue to the nation from military service are no less real than the moral gains. This is so universally believed throughout the country that I am not aware that there has ever been any necessity to prove it." It was thus that the distinguished Swiss military writer and historian, Col. Camille Favre, expressed himself when lecturing in London on the army of Switzerland.

Health is the highest material aim of the state no less than of the individual, for who can be really happy without health, and what community can be thrifty and contented in which physical and sanitary matters are not given due attention? Perfect health in the body is the outcome of perfect discip-

line, regular habits, restraint of the appetite, and exercise where manual work does not supply it. Insensibly everyone is constantly applying this sort of discipline to himself in a greater or less degree, and it does not require much power of deduction to grasp that if this discipline is converted into a *system* and generally applied, we then find that marked benefit must ensue to the individual and to the state. Human beings show a distaste to being made to do a thing, from taking a dose of medicine to paying taxes, but when mankind recognises that obligatory regulations are beneficial they lose their distaste for the coercion.

Thus it has come to pass that those nations who harboured the bugbear "conscription" have found that it was an angel in disguise and are proud to acknowledge universal service as the keystone of their national health and material benefit. It is abundantly recognised that the giant states of ancient days succumbed when ease and luxury took the place of discipline and self-restraint, as in the case of the Romans; and the converse is as apparent where the noble struggles for national being in Greece, England, Switzerland, and Holland were followed by the best art and literature the world has ever seen. The whole Swiss people are a splendid example of the benefits to health of systematic training. Of their training a prominent Swiss said: "Our young men come from their annual training thin and bronzed, dying to have a good sleep, but not ill. These trainings are vacations, a necessary

holiday, especially for those in sedentary professions."

In *The British Medical Journal* the statistical results to health and the development of the body are gone into in the case of recruits. The available information from a great many countries seems to have been consulted, and it is found that in the case of all recruits their general health and strength were promoted by the good food, good air, and adequate bodily exercise which falls to their lot while soldiering. One point came out very clearly in all cases—that much the greatest improvement occurred in the first few months, most during the first six or eight weeks, the lungs increasing over one-eighth in size, etc. After this there is no such marked general gain. This is of great value in showing that from a physical point of view practically all the advantage in improved physical condition could be given to the manhood of a nation by such a standard of military service as that adopted in Switzerland, which interferes so little with the civilian duties of its citizens. *The British Medical Journal* in commenting on the figures, remarks that "Military training increases the strength of the men, their efficiency and endurance, and improves not only the bodies, but also the habits and mode of life of recruits. It teaches not only cleanliness, but also order, tidiness, sense of duty, and mutual helpfulness. It promotes abstinence from excess in eating and drinking, and is a guarantee of good health and good behaviour."

The vast difference resulting from the incorpor-

ation of systematic athleticism with education, and otherwise, is very clearly shown in the contrast that exists between the British and the Chinese as races of people, or, for the matter of that, between the Japanese and the Chinese. *Mens sana in corpore sano* comes down to us unchallenged from the palmy days of the Grecians and Romans. In England athleticism seemed to be such a spontaneous production that for a long time physical development was not systematised as it is by most of the other European powers, such as Germany, Sweden, Norway, Switzerland, etc., who found that to take their proper place in the world it was necessary to have a strong and intellectual manhood.

A recent authority asserts that "The perfection of the military system is, perhaps, the best index of national virility, patriotism and soundness." Indeed, it is further stated that after a thorough research into the whole matter, "Comparing educational systems of the world, it is found that where the military system is most highly developed there also the most practically efficient system of national education is to be found, universal and compulsory military service being regarded as the natural corrollary to universal and compulsory national education, whilst the duties of state to individual and of individual to state are recognised as logically reciprocal. There also is found the highest standard of domesticity amongst all classes of the community, and therefore the highest degree of leisure for mental development. It is indisputable that this result is very largely the result of the adoption

of universal and compulsory military service, which, by passing under the review of responsible authority the entire manhood of the country, at an age when the capacity for assimilating tuition is yet existent, affords a unique opportunity of impressing an education upon those who, for one reason or another, have escaped the primary net. Moreover, subjection to discipline and the physical development characteristic of military training tend towards the elimination of misery from homes where misery would otherwise reign, and, therefore, by the inculcation of self-restraint and healthy activity of mind and body, pave a way for the easier, quicker, and more efficient intellectual training of succeeding generations."

A pleasing result from physical training under system and discipline is a general improvement in manners and bearing as well as in health. This certainly should not be an unwelcome adjunct to any form of training whatever, and those persons who have visited countries in which some form of universal compulsory service has been adopted are much struck with the set-up and civility of the men. No more conclusive proof of the advantage of some military training, in its results on the citizens, can be afforded than by noting the improvement in physique, manners, and bearing in those comparatively few young men in our midst who were patriotic enough to devote time voluntarily to the work under the existing system before the war.

It is not found possible in any civilised part of the world to carry on military operations on the

basis that all men are equal, and that the outward and visible sign of that is best evidenced by brusque independence of expression, amounting on the part of many of those serving the public to downright insolence. Military discipline could not work upon such a basis. In this direction alone universal military training would be of immense benefit to Canada.

We should have a most salutary result on the health, manners, and bearing of the whole people under universal military training and its necessary discipline. And one very important feature to the individual is that he would get all the benefits for nothing, for it is believed that the Swiss system could be applied to Canada for practically the same amount we spent on our militia prior to the war.

What boy does not like drill and military exercises? If he does not he is not a boy and has been put into pants by mistake! And how much more quickly can the nimble mind of youth learn anything, especially when they like learning it. The great success of the "Boy Scout" movement has of course hinged on the love of a boy for anything that appeals to his boyhood—Boys' Brigades, Boy Scouts, Cadets, etc.

I once asked a French officer (whose forefathers gave their name to a Canadian town) how the "Boy Scout" movement was viewed in France. He replied: "We tried that sort of thing long ago but found that unless it is part of a national obligatory system it is not satisfactory." This is just where Australia and New Zealand have made a very im-

portant new departure. Practically all of the leading countries of the world make provisions to encourage the voluntary training of their youth as a stepping-stone to subsequent instruction, when they choose to join the army or when they are obliged to undergo military training, whichever may be the system in vogue in their country.

It has remained, however, for Australia and New Zealand to inaugurate an innovation in the matter of military training, and they have been the first countries to adopt national military systems, co-ordinated by Lord Kitchener, which have brought compulsory service into play at a very early age. Indeed, it might be said that it almost begins as play, and gradually leads the boy, at the most adaptive ages, to become versed in all the preliminaries required for the defence of his country before leaving school and college life.

There is another very great advantage in acquiring all the preliminaries of drill, general knowledge of shooting and familiarity with the rifle, machine-gun, and field-gun, for thereby the enormous waste of invaluable time is saved when lads come into citizen forces with this knowledge. Then the training can take the shape of manœuvres, and the real value of operating as organised bodies can be demonstrated, in place of being tied down to fixed camps learning preliminaries, and undergoing annual rifle shooting as is unfortunately necessary under a military system on the voluntary basis as in Canada.

Even in countries where the military law does

not require obligatory training before—say—20 years of age, yet very commonly the school authorities exact varying degrees of physical training, gymnastics, and military drill.

Take a condition of this sort as it exists at present in Switzerland, and it will give a pretty good idea of what is attempted in many other countries. It may be added, however, that there is a growing section in Switzerland which advocates a Federal obligation for this preliminary training under 20 years of age.

The systematic and health-giving training of the Swiss people is in evidence from a very tender age. The Cantons have to do with education and preliminary training, physical, gymnastics, and drill to prepare the boys for their military training, and secure a sound basis for recruitment, for most of the troops belong to the Canton. Education is free, compulsory, and of a high standard. Recruits unable to pass the educational requirements are sent back to school.

A child must have nine years in school, all in the primary school if it is desired. The regulations vary in different Cantons, and in some the child, commencing at six or seven years of age, must do four years (and in others five years) of schooling in the primary school. In the last two years there are obligatory physical exercises. To judge, however, by the size of the little chaps I saw doing bending and other exercises under a robust "schoolmarm," I should judge that they must start at these exercises from the day they go to school. The

place in which I saw the little class was an open square in the Swiss village of Untersee. The only other spectator besides myself was a Swiss soldier in full uniform, knapsack and all, wheeling his infant in a baby-carriage, across which his rifle was laid. A very striking picture of citizen-soldiery! When the physical exercises were over, a game was started under the supervision of the teacher, who also took part with the little ones, and the kindly discipline seemed to work like a charm.

After the four years in the primary school (if he does not remain in it) it is necessary for the boy to attend a pro-gymnasium or secondary school for five years. In this there is obligatory gymnastic exercise and drill.

Then comes the gymnasium for three years. This higher class school is voluntary. The courses in the Swiss universities, which follow the gymnasiums, for those who are going into the professions, last six or seven years.

In one of the advanced schools I saw some of the bigger boys going through physical drill, gymnastics, and marching, under the direction of their master. Few soldiers could have done much better. Here again, after the exercises were over, they broke off into a species of systematised sport, running and ball games, which also seemed to be directed, and taken part in, by the master.

The obligatory education brings the lad up to 16. From 17 to 20 musketry instruction can be obtained in the Cantons, through cadets corps, etc. A return shows that in about one-half of the Can-

tons 7,843 cadets shot in 56 corps and that 4,078 of them draw a subsidy of one dollar for efficiency as marksmen in 1912.

All of the 22 Cantons have also, to a greater or less degree, "Sections of preparatory Military Instruction" which, under a course arranged by the Federal Military authorities, gives a more advanced optional instruction to lads between 17 and 19 years of age to fit them better for their recruit training. Some 13,000 youths attended in 1913. The instructors are officers, N.C.O.'s and teachers of gymnastics.

The following account of the Swiss Preparatory Military Instruction Corps will be of interest. The authorities attach far more importance to Preparatory Military Instruction Corps than to Cadet Corps.

These corps are purely voluntary; the Federation pays the entire cost, and no subscription is due from the members. The youth belonging to them are from 16 to 20 years. At the age of 20 they enter the Recruit School, bringing with them certificates stating the length of time they have been in the Preparatory Corps and the courses attended, together with the results of their shooting.

This does not shorten the Recruit School training, but experience proves that the Recruit School is easier for these youths than for those who have no previous training.

One of these corps has recently been started in Lausanne. A gentleman writes: "Last June I had the opportunity, at the end of the second year's

training, of witnessing the boys at their drill and also of accompanying them on a 30-kilometre (about 19 mile) march, which is part of the regulations.

"The corps is divided into two classes. One for boys attending the higher grade schools, the other for those who have left the National schools at sixteen. The length of the course is three months. There is a first and second year course. If a boy in his second year is not sufficiently advanced, he must repeat the first year course. In subsequent years the second year course is repeated.

"The equipment consists of service rifle, cap, tunic, belt with pouch, and bayonet. The officers and non-commissioned officers are all in the army and paid, but the pay is only just sufficient to cover their expenses. The officers are, like our own territorial officers, professional men who patriotically take up this work in their spare time. The non-commissioned officers also undertake the work voluntarily. When on parade, however, both are under military discipline. The non-commissioned officer instructors are corporals serving in the barracks.

"Everything is done out of doors. Only the simpler movements in military drill are practised, but much attention is given to physical training, shooting instruction and the mechanism and the care of arms."

In his examination for the militia a man has to do three exercises: —

Running.—80 metres, or nearly 88 yards, in less than 12 seconds.

Long jump—3.5 metres, 4 yards.

Lifting—18 kilogramme, 40 lbs., four times without touching the ground, each time passing the weight to the other hand.

Many of the peasantry fail in these exercises owing to inability to breathe properly, to want of spring in the haunches, or to control the muscles. The boys are taught how to breathe, run, and jump properly.

The object of the training is not to make miniature soldiers of the boys. The following extracts from the programme of instruction show the spirit of the training: "The Preparatory Military Instruction Courses with arms pursue two principal objects:

"1. To develop and increase bodily strength.

"2. To produce good shots.

"For this reason shooting instruction should begin at quite an early age and before the Recruit School.

"Tactical exercises are not allowed because the courses are not in any way designed to replace the Recruit School, but to prepare for it by exercises more elementary and appropriate to the age of the pupils.

"No opportunity should be neglected of appealing to and developing the intelligence of the pupils. The reason and object of each piece of instruction should always be explained.

"On all occasions the sentiment of honour must be developed."

The instructions lay great stress upon the importance of careful training and instruction before a pupil is actually allowed to fire with ball cartridge.

Directions are also given for three games: "Tug of War," "Paper Chase," and "The Runners." This last is similar to a Boy Scout game.

The teaching of patriotism is considered of great importance, every endeavour being made to inculcate it in the boys.

The school boys are under better discipline than the others, because the officers can report to the masters if there are any irregularities. It is impossible to be very strict with the working-class boys or else they take offence and leave the corps. If a boy is absent from parade he must bring a written excuse next time from his parents. If he is late (which is often unavoidable in the case of working lads), he goes up to the instructor of his section, stands at attention, and makes his excuse.

If a boy in the ranks is reproved, he answers back by saying, "I understand." The natural tendency of boys to be inattentive and fidgety is as noticeable there as in this country. But, as one of the officers said to me, it would be difficult to produce the same results in a country that is not "A Nation in Arms," as the Swiss have been soldiers for generations and are naturally amenable to discipline.

The trainings usually take place three times a

week, at 8 p.m., also early on Sunday mornings. At the first drill I saw running and jumping being practised. A long jump of 3.5 metres was marked off, also an 80-metre course. Each boy's work is put on an official form. Afterwards each section did rifle exercises. The corps then fell in and marched into the town, where they were dismissed at 9.30.

At the next parade arm and leg exercises were practised. The sections afterwards marched to the barrack ground, and the boys were sent over the obstacles used for training recruits.

On the next occasion a whole afternoon was free for training. The school boys marched into the country and were instructed in map reading and exercises in double sections. The others did shooting practice.

At the inspection there was no formal parade. Each section practised the firing positions, marching, wheeling, forming up, physical exercises, etc., under their own instructors. The inspecting officer came to each section in turn and looked on.

The course ended on the last Sunday in June. Owing to the inclement weather on the previous Sunday, both shooting and the 30-kilometre march had to be done on the same day. The corps started at 4.30 in the morning, and marched to the shooting range, the boys bringing breakfast with them. At mid-day they started by a forest road for Meziéres, where they had dinner. The march was then resumed by a circuitous route towards Lausanne, till, on turning a corner of the road, the beautiful lake of Geneva came again into sight. Before entering

the town the commanding officer made a speech, in which he pointed out that if they all fell sick, or got injured feet in consequence of this march, they could claim compensation from the Government Insurance, which includes hospital treatment in case of accident. The corps was finally dismissed at 10 p.m.

What impressed me with regard to the officers was the entire absence of that military swagger which is so noticeable in Germany, and which the average Britisher assumes to be an inevitable and unpleasant feature of compulsory service. The boys were properly looked after, and not allowed to drink unauthorised water, good drinking water being always obtainable in the villages. Some of them did not go on the march, but only attended the shooting; these brought with them written requests from their parents.

When out in the country march discipline was, quite rightly, very much relaxed, but however ragged the column got, step was kept very well. When marching into Lausanne with the band playing, the boys, though tired, pulled themselves together, and the step, dressing, and swing were very creditable.

The practical result of this training is that it forms in a battalion a nucleus of men who have gone through these courses and who are consequently more intelligent and reliable than the average private. They are very useful for scouting, patrol, and reconnaissance work.

Swiss experience shows the importance of hav-

ing capable instructors, that plenty of variety is needed to maintain the pupils' interest, that too much purely military drill for young boys is no good, and merely bothers them, as they cannot stand steady for one minute.

The Military Department is not, of course, concerned with moral training, but it has no objection to the officers trying to bring a religious influence to bear on the boys. The officers may choose their own instructors, and they try as far as possible to engage men likely to have a good influence. The Socialists have been objecting to this. They hope, however, by the exercise of much tact, to interest the boys enough to make them love coming to the exercises and to induce the parents to regard the training as an excellent thing for their sons.

No province in Canada as yet has adopted compulsory military drill in schools, but Nova Scotia has been doing a great deal of excellent preliminary work in that direction and the matter has recently been given very serious attention in Ontario. As a basis for physical training the "Syllabus of Physical Exercises for use in Public Elementary Schools" has been adopted in Nova Scotia. This manual, issued by the Educational Commission in England, provides for (1) "Play, running or marching; (2) preliminary positions and movements; (3) arm flexions and extensions; (4) balance exercises; (5) shoulder exercises and lungs; (6) trunk forward and backward bending; (7) trunk turning and sideways bending; (8) marching; (9) jumping; and (10) breathing exercises."

Thus we have a physical system at the root of education; and a foundation on which to build men capable and willing to defend their country in the hour of need.

By an arrangement with the Department of Militia the same province has done a very great deal towards educating the teachers to be instructors in elementary drill, and other provinces, including Ontario, have laid an important foundation in the same direction.

So important have leading educationists and clergy deemed the matter of preliminary military training to boys that in 1913 a special pamphlet[1] was issued with the object of giving general information on the subject.

A few extracts from this are:—"Those who attack the principle of universal training are evidently not aware of the fact that the law of Canada now recognises the principle that all men, with comparatively few exceptions, are responsible for the defence of their country." The pamphlet continues: "Between the ages of 18 and 45 inclusive, men are now, by law, liable to be called upon when necessary to do military service in the defence of their country. There is no proper system of training in citizenship that does not make all children —girls as well as boys—conscious of their respon-

[1] The pamphlet is signed as follows: Rev. Nathaniel Burwash, M. A., D.D. Chancellor of Victoria University; Rev. D. M. Gordon, M.A., D.D., Principal Queen's University, Kingston; A. H. Mackay, B.A., B.Sc., LL.D., F.R. S.C., Superintendent of Education, Nova Scotia; Rev. Dr. H. J. Cody, rector of St. Paul's, Toronto; Rev. J. W. MacMillan, D.D., pastor Presbyterian Church, Halifax; Rev. Canon G. Dauth, vice-rector, Laval University, Montreal; Rev. Solomon Jacobs, rabbi, Holy Blossom Synagogue, Toronto; Rev. T. Crawford Brown, M.A., pastor New St. Andrews Church, Toronto; Father Minehan; Principal Hutton; W. J. Brown, Aylmer; J. A. Cooper, Toronto; James L. Hughes, Chief Inspector of Schools, Toronto.

sibilities as individual units in their country. Boys should understand that they will become responsible for the defence of their homes and their country when they reach the age of 18. They should be trained to use their influence to prevent war; but the fundamental principle is that they are liable by law to give their services to defend their country when necessary in return for the privilege they enjoy as citizens."

"They must have this training in order to render efficient service without terrible sacrifice of life. Universal liability for defence service in the opinion of the signatories is unquestionably right. This being true, all men should in some way be prepared for such service and the country that demanded universal service without universal training was culpably negligent."

"It costs the country less to train the coming citizens in the schools than in any other way—it interferes with the ordinary duties of men less than any other possible plan—it qualifies the men of the country for more complete training in shorter time —boys like military drill and thus it may be used to produce the most beneficial effects upon character."

"Genuine patriotism was developed by it, not an arrogant or offensive consciousness of national importance, but a faith in himself and his country that is one of the basic elements of a strong and balanced moral character. It is further pointed out that the drill defines in a boy's mind the need of active co-operation with his fellows, and gives

him a greater consciousness of his own individuality."

In conclusion, it is stated that the fact that the government of Canada is democratic, quadruples the arguments in favour of military drill, which counteracts the tendency towards disregard of authority.

Again in this present year a large and influential body waited on the Toronto Board of Education to ask them to petition the government of Ontario to bring about compulsory military drill in their schools coupled with proper training of the teacher to that end. This petition was subsequently sent by them to the government. At this deputation Professor Coleman of Toronto University, who had just returned from Australia, stated he was surprised to find on his recent visit to Australia that they had young men already on hand prepared for the front. "The Australians always seemed to me very peaceful," said the professor. "I discovered that every school boy in Australia is trained and finally passed over to the citizen forces where he stays seven years. There is no opposition to it. I found no 'scooting' about looking for men to send to France to take part in the war. They were all ready, and that is the real democracy."

Rev. Dr. W. H. Hincks, pastor of Trinity Methodist Church, stated that Switzerland had both compulsory military service and compulsory military training. He claimed the moral average was very high in men trained for military purposes, and

that there was absolutely no hesitation in well set-up military trained men stepping out under the colours. Self-defence, he said, was as obligatory as taxes. "We cannot exempt men from taxes and moral principles, we cannot exempt them from drill," said the speaker.

"You have moral compulsion for the prominent rich. Their sons must go or they cannot hold up their heads," said Dr. Hincks. "The poor men also feel bound to stand up before the recruiting officers and explain their position. But the sons of those not prominent may take a ticket and go south. That condition can be eliminated by compulsory training."

Professor Maurice Hutton, principal of University College of the University of Toronto, told of the two bogies which appeared to interfere with a working out of the principle. He called them "militarism" and "compulsory training." The first, he held, did not apply and the second was only a bogie, because Great Britain had never had a crisis until now. He stated that the Australians who turned out the rawest kind of youths a couple of years ago, had now astonished all by sending to the war the most gallant contingents in the world, "having regard also to the Canadians." He believed that the reason Englishmen feared compulsory service was because they had been "spoiled, coddled, and too easy-going in the past." The reasons they had got into that state was that the Empire had always been free from menace. According to Principal Hutton, there was no liberty in having part of the popula-

tion accept all the burden of defence, while the rest were free to do as they pleased. "That kind of liberty is only liberty to let your country be enslaved," he said. "Liberty for the slackers is liberty to lie in their beds and do nothing for the country that gave them birth on this distressful planet. In France they think of military training and military service as the result of being a Frenchman. The last speaker referred to the compulsory payment of taxes. What is the good of paying taxes? Only so much more money for the enemy. What is the good of improving our country? Only so much more wealth for the enemy. What is the good of being born in this country? It is not a guarantee of good citizenship. What good is it without victory?"

Quartermaster-Sergeant Matthew Wayman, of the 169th Battalion, said he represented the working men. A year and a half ago he had been a pacifist. His conversion to military training and fighting was now complete. He said that military training would obviate the cripples, of which there were 50 per cent. among workingmen.

Following this the same body, the Canadian Defence League, organised another deputation to urge the Ontario Government to accede to more than a hundred petitions from school boards asking the government to amend the Regulations and inaugurate compulsory drill in the schools. The deputation was a large and influential one, and the Premier promised earnest consideration.

In the *Mail and Empire* of Toronto the general

feeling in the country on this matter was given voice to in an editorial on November 17th last, under the heading of "Prepare the Boys," as follows: "Tens of thousands of young Canadians who were boys when the war began are now reckoned young men, and a great number of them have taken their place in Canada's army. There may be other tens of thousands who are now going to school who will have come to eligibility for defensive service before the war ends, for nobody can say when it will end. It is safe to assume that it will be a long war. This assumption, indeed, may have an influence to shorten it, and does not threaten the serious consequences of the opposite view if it is found to be mistaken. We would do well, therefore, to prepare the boys who are yet too young for military service so that if there is need for them later on they may have a good preliminary training. On this account the proposal for military instruction in our public schools is a timely one, and it is to be hoped that it will be carefully considered by school boards in all parts of the country. There is no danger of this kind of training 'militarising' the boys, as some people allege."

We therefore find that considerations of physique, including general health and bearing, discipline, including manners, respect and order and resourcefulness, including alertness and intelligence, are all concerned and immensely influenced by this class of training for the boys and young men.

The feeling of our great neighbour to the

south on this important matter should not be overlooked. In connection with "The Business Man and Universal Military Training," Mr. Irving T. Bush, president Bush Terminal Co., says: "I was a boy who was fortunate, I think, in going to a military school; and I remember, in the fall of the year when the boys assembled from all over the country, they gathered in groups about the campus and about the school. Some of them were dressed in well-cut clothes which showed them scions of wealthy parents; some wore lurid neckties and ill-cut clothes from the country tailor. Soon the military tailor appeared upon the scene, and in a few weeks we were all clad in the same clothes, and you couldn't tell, as far as appearances went, the rich boy from the poor boy.

"Then the military instructor began his work, and started the setting-up exercises and the rudimentary drills. Some of the boys, when they came in the fall, were slouchy and slovenly, but as the year went by and as we finally gathered for the last dress-parade on the campus and marched with our eyes straight ahead and with the most precise bearing we could muster, those boys had all been whipped into shape during the year. They were erect, and they had learned neatness, punctuality, and many other things they could not get out of books. While not all of us have carried through life all that we have learned in the military drills at that school—for advancing years beget easy-chairs and slippers—yet I am very sure all of us have carried

through life some of the things we got in that course at the military school; and we were better prepared—not for war, as I am not talking of preparedness from that standpoint—for the battles of life and the battles of business, the battles of peace. We were better prepared for any contingency and any call of duty by the things which we learned in that course, than we would or could have been without it.

"We all remember abroad, in the countries where they have universal training, the guards on the railroads, even the conductors and motor-drivers on the tramway cars—how alert they are, with their coats buttoned up, and how clean and prompt and punctilious and polite. Just contrast that mental picture with the mental picture of, we will say, the London bus-driver, or even our own trolley-car drivers and conductors here. In one case they have gone through a school or course of military training which has given them a command of themselves, a desire to be neat; and they are more efficient and more punctual as public servants in their walks of life than are the same class of men that we see in this country and in England, where they have voluntary military service. You need not consider the great belligerent countries, but consider the same things in Holland or Switzerland.

"It seems to me that the great good of a universal military training is the good that will come to young men in the preparation for life, and if we could dismiss from our minds the thought that we are perhaps building up a great military machine

which might be a danger in the future, we would all want our boys, as I am sure I want my boy, to have some element of military training as a start in life. It would be an advantage to the sons of the well-to-do and to the sons of the poor to start them each with that advantage. The only danger from that form of military training, if it has the advantage which it seems to have, might be the danger of building up a great military machine. But stop and think for a moment where that has occurred. Has it ever occurred in a republic? Has it occurred in France? Has it occurred in Switzerland, or has it occurred in any country where there is a form of government which at all approaches a republican form? Has it not only occurred in the country where there was already a dominant military aristocracy, ambitious for its own future and for the power and prestige and military future of their country? It seems to me we may well dismiss from our minds the possibility of any serious danger of this sort here in this country."

As a record of progress it is of interest to note that our neighbour the State of New York recently enacted a compulsory military training law. This law not only provides for military training, but it permits the Military Training Commission to send boys sixteen, seventeen, and eighteen years of age to work on farms. This is now being carried out, as this work is regarded as an equivalent to military training. Could a better example be furnished our provinces?

CHAPTER VIII

COMPARISON AND COST

"Look here upon this picture, and on this!"
—*Shakespeare*

Having now had in review the military systems, the national spirit which they engender or by which they are engendered, we may with profit come down to the direct consideration of results obtained for expenditures.

A bird's-eye view of the matter can be obtained by glancing at "The World's Armies Before the War" table, and much wholesome deduction drawn therefrom, but we will look a little closer for enlightenment and guidance.

Notwithstanding the fact that "comparisons are odious," yet, where examples exist, it is only possible through comparison to come to a fair judgment of the true position and condition of anything.

At any military dinner, or similar function, to say nothing of the floor of Parliament, there is a platitude which is never absent. That is "The marked improvement in the service since I joined in eighteen hundred, etc." Doubtless "in eighteen hundred, etc.," there were like congratulations over conditions prevailing in the Stone Age.

Is not, however, a more satisfactory test, as to whether a system is producing adequate results or

not, to compare the results with those obtained from other systems? If our results are better, we would contend that our system was the best, but it is hardly wise to close the eyes and refuse comparison. Nor, when it touches so sacred a subject as defence of home and country, is it fair to say that it is disloyal to acknowledge it if the comparison finds our system wanting. It is in this spirit that I would venture to set forth some comparisons of the military systems of Canada on the one hand, as representing a voluntary system, and Switzerland on the other hand, as representing a universal service system. We find in the former (Canada) that, owing to influences such as are connected with a new country and commercial keenness, the people at large have not taken a general interest in military matters and in the necessity to train for defence as a part of the life of the nation; and in the latter (Switzerland) we see a patriotic people whose military attainments in past history, ardent love of country, and an ancient civilisation have led them to embody in their national laws the obligation of military service.

Though the geographical conditions are different, yet when we come to fundamentals, such as national existence and the upbringing of a sturdy, healthy, disciplined people, the same laws must govern. In making comparison of military systems for our own benefit, another reason why Switzerland may very properly be taken is because in no country in the world is there a more democratic system of decentralised

co-operation. At the same time in no country is there a more ardent and concentrated patriotism, in this case welding a mixed population speaking four separate tongues into a solid national unit.

There is another reason why a comparison may well be made between Switzerland and Canada. When we look back on our Canadian history, we find that the underlying principles which have made Switzerland the military model we consider it to be were in existence and practised here, and that they saved Canada from conquest 100 years ago.

Just as no one can read the old militia law[1] of the Canadas (Upper and Lower) of 1808 and not realise what saved Canada from conquest during that splendid and successful struggle against the invader in 1812, 1813 and 1814, so no one can carefully peruse the existing military law[2] of Switzerland and not understand why the people of that noble little country have an efficient defence force in their truly national militia.

It is well worth while for any patriotic Canadian who has at heart the safety of his country, or indeed the integrity of the British Empire, to read over both the present military law of Switzerland and that of Canada.

He can hardly do so and fail to understand why there is such a marked difference in the military standards in the two countries, and he may begin

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[1] In the Transactions of the Canadian Military Institute for the year 1910.
[2] In the Transactions of the Canadian Military Institute for the year 1912.

to see some reason for the enormous difference in results obtained for the money expended. The reading of the respective laws will, however, not tell half the tale, for, as has already been mentioned, behind it all lies the perforce slip-shod performance of the observances under the voluntary basis in Canada, and the crisp and thorough carrying-out of the strict letter of the law under the patriotic universal service system of Switzerland. Think of the difference of full ranks at every "fall-in," done by the stroke of a pen in Switzerland; and of the inordinate expenditure of brain-power, time, and money to obtain lesser results, on the part of the officers and N.C.O.'s in Canada! The practical results of the two systems are, of necessity, untrained officers and men in lamentably small numbers, indifferently equipped, and *at an enormous cost in Canada;* and well-trained, efficient officers, backed up by competent N.C.O.'s and trained, well-equipped men, in full strength in the ranks, *at a wonderfully low cost in Switzerland.*

Of course war conditions and the present training for the war make for a new soldiery. But is this not temporary, and if war ceased tomorrow does not the existing system undoubtedly provide for a sliding back into the old groove?

As I have already said, the Canadian system might not improperly be designated the "dollar" system. Our city corps, who put in training at night in their local armouries, might be compared to the abandoned volunteers in Great Britain, who drew no pay; but to the main bulk of those attend-

ing the annual mobilisation of our Canadian militia, the dollar, with shelter and sustenance, is an extremely important factor.

In England and other countries the possible danger of being obliged to defend home and country has always been considered as a real and serious question, treated as a grave matter and a first duty of every man. With us it was the unfortunate custom to deride the possibility of any danger of conquest ever threatening Canada, and to discredit, as species of loafers, those who "waste their time" by "playing soldier" in the militia.

Certainly, for results this "dollar" system comes high. With this system we adopt the "Expeditionary Force" basis of the Motherland, and though we have not yet colonies to send these permanent troops to defend, and we do not need them for Indians, like the United States, as we have our Mounted Police, we are luxuriating in the most expensive form of soldier organisation in the world.

In the first communication I ever made on this subject (12th February, 1906), I ventured to formulate three hypotheses:

Firstly, the position of Switzerland and Canada are identical (both with frontiers abutting more powerful nations).

Secondly, Switzerland has been following the right path (in universal military service), while we have not; and

Thirdly, that we should entirely change our existing system, as unsatisfactory and unsuited to our position.

I would now remark that since the above was written we have been steadily sinking deeper in the mire of an inadequate, expensive, and obsolete military system.

The model that we have been copying is the one of which our greatest soldier, the late Lord Roberts, said: "No modification of the voluntary system, no amount of lavish expenditure, no cajolery, no juggling with figures will ever produce an adequate and efficient home army on the voluntary system."

We have been steadily following the English model. If it is the Regular Army—the overseas expeditionary force—it is not at all suited for a home defence force; or if, on the other hand, it is the territorials, we would then seem to be working on a very uncertain experiment.

There are other countries, as will have been seen by a preceding chapter, and new countries at that, as, for example, the Argentine Republic, with whom comparisons might be made with profit, but the system in vogue in Switzerland appeals to us not only from personal contact with it, but from the very significant fact that progressive and patriotic portions of our own Empire, such as Australia, New Zealand, and South Africa, have been seized with the same convictions, and have used the Swiss military system as the model for the re-constructing of their own militia.

There are a great range of things which when put into the melting-pot of comparison would give valuable information as to the best methods for refining our military system, or indeed of discov-

ering perchance that it stands the test and needs no refining whatever.

Besides such general considerations as we have given to national spirit, preparedness, mobilisation for war, military systems (and something of the organisation involved in them) there are valuable lessons to be learned by going into such matters of detail as cost and the result therefrom, as the basic system of organisation, as the mode of training (including rifle-shooting), and as equipment.

First, therefore, we will see what the respective Canadian and Swiss taxpayer gets in the matter of *defence force* for the dollars which he spends on it. Relative efficiency may be inferred from the foregoing chapters, and for the moment we will consider mere numbers and dollars.

The following table will speak for itself:

Comparison of Cost and Results

	Nova Scotia 1866	Canada 1912	Switzerland 1912	New Zealand 1912
Population	357,600	7,206,643	3,758,300	1,100,000
Military Expenditure	$114,460	$9,352,570	†$8,430,000	$2,560,200
War strength of militia	58,000	66,014	538,610	52,079
Trained Militia, available	45,767	48,213	331,610	27,225*
Militia expenditure per capita of population	$0.32	$1.30	$2.24	$2.32
Militia expenditure per capita of militia strength	$1.97	$141.67	$15.65	$49.16
Militia expenditure per capita of trained Militia available	$2.50	$193.96	$25.42	$94.03
Cost of Headquarter and District Staff		$194,460	$317,177	$82,760
Cost of Permanent Corps (without barracks, maintenance, etc.)		$2,199,907	$359,763	$568,620
Permanent Officers and Men, No.		2,280	233	530
Percentage of Militia war strength to population	16.22	0.91	14.33	4.73
Percentage of trained Militia-men, available, to population	12.80	0.64	8.85	2.47

*Some 500 Rough Riders and grooms are hired for the Horse Regie and Cavalry Remount Depot in addition.

† Military expenditure for Switzerland includes that of Cantons.

Having in mind that facts and figures are stubborn things and that some of them do not lie, we face the charges that we spend more money than Switzerland and have not much more than one-tenth as many men available in an emergency, that each militiaman costs us many times as much, and that the cost per capita of the population is only a dollar more for a Swiss for his army of half a million. These results, except the last mentioned, should properly all be doubled as our population is twice that of Switzerland, namely, as has already been pointed out in the chapter on Switzerland, for twice Switzerland's expenditure of less than nine million dollars we might be able to have more than a million men available as an organised military force, and it would not cost an individual Canadian in Canada more than a Swiss in Switzerland.

Gen. Ian Hamilton, in a report on our force, said that the Canadian militia is short some 184,900 men. He apparently did not recommend at that time any departure from the present voluntary system, but if this deficiency was made up on the present basis of cost per man we should have to face an additional $25,501,408 per annum.

The people of Canada will probably think this is a large amount of money, especially when they come to realise that it would be considerably more money than Sweden, Switzerland, and Bulgaria combined expended before the war, and for which they could between them put more than one million of trained men in the field. *See table on page 123.*

The table as relating to Nova Scotia in 1866 is

very significant. Nova Scotia trained 45,767 men for five days in 1866 and Canada trained 48,213 for twelve days in 1912.

If we refer to the table on page 123 showing strength, cost, population, etc., and compare the cost of the Canadian militiaman to the highly trained German and Japanese soldier, we find that the Canadian costs his country practically three times as much as the German soldier and nearly five times as much as the "Jap" veteran. And we also find that brave little Montenegro has a company of 125 officers and men for the same amount of money we spend to maintain and give twelve days' training to one Canadian militiaman; and we have had ample proof of how the Montenegrins can fight!

From the above facts can we say that the Canadian taxpayer is getting satisfactory results from his expenditure under the existing military system? We fear the answer must be in the negative, and that we must acknowledge, from a financial point of view, the voluntary system is not satisfactory.

In the first place, the voluntary system makes the "dollar" such a prominent factor that it might be said to dominate the situation. Even under the stimulus of this great war the matter of patriotic enlistment is placed under a cloud. It seems impossible to dissociate the voluntary system from the mercenary basis. In discussing a matter relating to recruiting recently a young reporter found fault with my belief that the dollar was the essential under the voluntary system, in our country at any

rate. I said, "Very well, we will put the matter in another way. What army could we raise at 1 cent a day, the pay of our noble allies the French?" His answer came promptly, whether correct or not, "We wouldn't have any."

Therefore, under our voluntary system as we find it, we are obliged to make the humiliating confession that it is the weight of the dollar or the remunerating of our forces that gives us results, or, in other words, we find ourselves on a mercenary basis. Surely this does not tend to elevate the spirit or the morale of the community, and it is this that has given rise to the plaint of Colonel Fraser alluded to in the chapter on "National Spirit."

Another very unfortunate result arises, in that the voluntary system on this mercenary basis, under an emergency, such as has arisen in this great national disaster of war on a colossal scale, has largely forced out the wrong class of men, and thereby added to the expense and the burdens we will have to carry for years to come. The necessity of getting men has led to inducements of such high pay to those serving and to those who may be dependent on the soldier who is serving, that scales of remuneration both for the man and for his dependents, are on a very high plane. Also benefits coming from benevolent institutions, such as the Patriotic Fund, have of necessity increased to such an extent that undoubtedly wives oftentimes have been the best recruiting agents, either through their own importunities or through the desire of the husband to put his wife in a better financial position

than previously; so the weight of the many dollars has levered the married men into the ranks, thereby immediately adding enormous expense and responsibilities to the country.

We do not for a moment contend that a time might not arise, or may not have already arisen, when class three (married men) or even class four, should be called out, but the simplicity and reasonableness of our Militia Act shows that such a basis as starting with classes 3 and 4 was never in contemplation by our forefathers who, in saving our country, laid the original foundation on which our Act is based. Their judgment was, and the Militia Act when properly applied enacts, that the first class of the community that should be called out comprises unmarried men or widowers without children from 18 to 30, and the second class comprises also unmarried men or widowers without children from 30 to 45, so that the spirit of the law and the dictates of reason provide that no such burden should be cast upon the state in carrying out this system as has arisen, and which will always arise under the unreasonable and unworkable voluntary basis. A voice has recently come to me from the West in the shape of a letter from an old comrade of the North-West Rebellion who in writing of present conditions wails "The Cost, the Cost, it is heart-rendering!"

The matter of expense had been foreseen to be an obstacle which was practically insurmountable on the existing basis. The organisation and maintenance of a force which could properly be claimed

to be in any way fitted for the task of the defence of the country was deemed out of the question in the opinion of a great Canadian newspaper. Just before the war, and when there was yet no thought of it, one of our leading journals, which was, and is, a strong supporter of the government, said editorially:

"The expense of the militia to Canada in the fiscal year ending March 31, 1913, was $10,272,000. The establishment of the active militia was approximately 75,000 officers and men. The per capita cost of the militia is, therefore, about $135.00 annually. The industrial rule that with the enlargement of working forces average costs go down does not seem to hold true as regards the militia. The larger the force to be trained and supported, the higher is the cost per unit. It is well, therefore, to be content that the militia should have steady and consistent growth, in keeping with the country's ability to pay for it, rather than there should be extravagant attempts to bring about wholesale enlargement. Prominent military officers have been urging lately that Canada's defence requires a militia of at least 250,000 men, or nearly four times as many as are trained each year now. As the cost of such an organisation would probably reach nearly fifty millions annually, it would seem unnecessarily extravagant and burdensome to many Canadians, strongly disposed as they might be to want the country well protected. Canada may never get launched on a military programme to bring its effective land forces up to a quarter-million of men,

but it will insist on better service and higher efficiency from that branch of the defence machine."

Training.—When we come to consider the important matter of the organisation of military units and of training, it appeals to common sense that when the unit has been in existence and trained in peace time exactly as it is called out to fight in war, that it is much better, if indeed it is not quite essential for quick mobilisation. On this important matter fortunately the present Chief of Staff, General Gwatkin, who was previously officer in charge of the mobilisation, contributed a very interesting paper entitled *Mobilisation,* to the Canadian Military Institute, some years ago, and again later to the Canadian Defence League. The cardinal point which he laid stress on in these contributions was that *troops should be organised and trained in peace as they should be organised and would fight in war.* He, moreover, said: "Because we wish for peace we are tempted to think that war is impossible. Other countries covet the boundless though still latent wealth of Canada and view with jealous eyes her daily increasing prosperity. Are we to be stigmatised as militarists because we seek so to develop her armed strength that she can say to potential enemies, not defiantly but confidently, 'Hands off'? If any one of you has a doubt as to whether the insurance now being paid against the risks of war is too high, or even adequate, I will ask him to set to work and think out answers to three straightforward questions: (1) With a view to national defence, how many troops can Canada at

present mobilise? (2) How long would it take to mobilise them? (3) Once in the field, how long could they be maintained undiminished in numbers and efficiency?

"'When a strong man, armed, keepeth his palace, his goods are in peace. But when a stronger than he shall come upon and overcome him, he taketh from him all his armour, wherein he trusted, and divideth his spoils'. Bacon's doctrine, that if a nation expects to be great, it must make the profession of arms its principal honour, occupation, and study, was but a philosophic rendering of the experience of the greatest statesman of ancient and modern civilisation. For Solon said well to Croesus when, in ostentation, he showed him his gold: 'Sir, if any other come that hath better iron than you, he will be master of all this gold.' "

We have already said the comparison of our training in peace time might well be contrasted with that adopted by the Swiss in their conditions of peace. The manner in which training is carried out under the "Swiss Military System" is of especial interest to us. Their training is the antithesis of ours; really the result of our voluntary system and their universal training. An illustration may serve to give point to the different systems. It was my good fortune to see a Swiss regiment of cavalry assemble for their annual training of 13 days. One man only was missing. Horses were excellent, perhaps a little too fat, coming with the man directly from his home. Everything was complete for service. Squadron and staff wagons, kitchen and forge

combined on wheels for each squadron; veterinaries, shoeing-smiths and saddlers with outfits in special wallets, and the former with also a complete field-chest on the staff wagons. The men had on the saddle a serviceable light water-proof cloth poncho-ground-sheet in place of the heavy cavalry cloak, and a bag with two feeds of oats, besides the other essentials of a horse soldier. The horses, men, and all kit were carefully inspected. At 2 p.m. the regiment marched off, after a formal ceremony with their standard, and were in the field, or rather in the mountains, without even a shelter-tent, for 11 days until they assembled again for demobilisation. During that time they were marching and "fighting" all the time; making about thirty miles a day on the average, or at least some 310 miles in all, in extremely hot weather, as I was informed by their commanding officer. On the return from the training I looked over one squadron and found that their horses (133 in number) were thinner, but still in excellent condition. They had lost one, dead, two were lame from kicks, and eight had sore-backs or girth-galls, but not very bad. In a very short time the men had received back their tunics and winter-overcoats, which were left in store during training, and were riding off to their respective homes.

The same year I put in annual cavalry training for 12 days at Niagara. Men and horses were conveyed by train. Marching is discouraged for fear of sore-backs and horse-claims. The camp as usual was a fixed one, and we once moved as far as the Welland Canal, 12 miles distant. Preliminary in-

struction of recruits and musketry ties the mounted man to the camp for most of the training. The stoves were practically immovable, there was only one heavy forge to a regiment, and there never have been a saddler's tools. If the training was made too much like work the men might not be forthcoming. Thus for an iron-hand job, the glove-hand has to be used. The difference between an obligatory and a voluntary system! It is, as we know, seldom a man with us is brought up before a magistrate and fined for not turning out. On the other hand, here are some sentences I have seen in Swiss papers: One man of the 1st Division was awarded five weeks in prison for desertion, another man eight weeks in prison and one year deprivation of civil rights for the same offence. In the 4th Division, a man, who, on two occasions, did not obey an order to turn-out, was given three months in prison and a year's deprivation of civil rights; and a recruit was awarded three months in prison, a year's deprivation of civic rights, and dismissal from the army for having stolen money from a comrade.

The general scheme of the Swiss training is that in the first year the training is regimental, squadron against squadron, battery against battery, company against company, etc. The next year it is brigade training, regiment against regiment. The third year it is divisional training, brigade against brigade. And the fourth year the training consists in the operation of one division against another. This routine is carried out in pairs of

divisions, so that two of them can have the fourth year at the time for grand manœuvres.

The scope of this chapter will not permit me to enter into details, but it will have been gathered from my previous remarks that the training is entirely practical, and carried out as if war conditions prevailed. The great advantage which exists from all the troops having had at least their 65 (et cetera) days at a recruit school, from having done their annual musketry with the rifle clubs, from having trained officers and N.C.O.'s need not be dwelt upon. It of course changes the whole character of the position. Therefore the Swiss can have, and they do have, free, untrammeled and mobile field exercises for their annual trainings.

The orders, maps, and minutest details seem to be amply provided for. As an example, in connection with the inspection of a division and the subsequent march-past, previous to manœuvres, a map was issued which showed not only the place of every corps for the inspection and in the march-past, with distances clearly marked, but also the routes by which the various corps were to arrive on the ground were indicated. After the manœuvres a booklet was published with all orders, with maps showing the position of the forces on each day, and the criticisms.

The training of the fortress garrisons in Switzerland has special interest for us, exemplifying how the defence of fortified places can be amply provided for, with trained suitable troops, by a citizen militia at a very slight cost compared with what

our permanent troops at Halifax and Victoria cost us.

The permanent fortifications of Switzerland are limited to the defences of the St. Gothard and St. Maurice in the Valois. The peace garrison consists of a small permanent establishment engaged on civilian contracts, which keeps the forts in order. They number about one hundred in all for both fortresses, and are N.C.O.'s and men of the fortress troops who are kept permanently in charge of the works, and completeness and efficiency is the keynote of the service. To provide against the possibility of surprise this peace "Fortress guard" has the assistance of "The Valley Guards" (or regional guard) which include all the "Elite" and "Landwehr," no matter of what units, living within certain defined areas near the fortifications. A list of these is kept in the "Fortress Bureau." These, on being called out, proceed immediately to the fortresses to assist in their defence until the arrival of the Fortress Garrisons proper sets them free to rejoin their own units. The Fortress Garrisons are specified troops organised as a separate body and comprising staff, infantry, fortress and position artillery, sappers, machine gun companies, telegraph and ambulance companies. Their annual training consists of thorough instruction in their special work in and about the fortified place under the orders of the commandants of the defences.

Common sense will dictate what an enormous saving in cost such a system must have over the plan of supporting large garrisons of permanent

soldiers all the year through, and indeed how much better for the men themselves in every way. This system would not only be of immense benefit to the taxpayer, but it would give great additional interest and experience to local militia forces.

We now come to another important consideration of this matter of training, already touched on by the chief of staff when he laid down that troops should be trained in peace-time as they would fight in war-time.

Valuable advice on this matter can be obtained from our neighbours. Mr. Robert M. Johnston, Assistant Professor of Modern History at Harvard University, Lecturer at the U. S. War College, and editor of the *Military Historian and Economist,* read a paper at a meeting of the Academy of Political Science in New York on May 18th, 1916, in which he says: "However loudly the statesmen and pressmen may shout to the contrary, an immense disproportion of power between trained, semi-trained, and untrained armies, is one of the outstanding features of the present conflict. And training tells in geometrical ratio as we climb the ranks from soldier and corporal to sergeant, lieutenant, captain, and upwards. The greatest asset of a brigade is one trained brigadier-general; of a division, one trained divisional general. And this is the lowest rank officer who actually handles problems in combined tactics. Above him, special training becomes enormously difficult and valuable. Columbus found out how to stand an egg on end; Von Moltke perceived the equally patent fact that it

was far more important and much more difficult, to train generals than sub-lieutenants. But we, knowing little of Von Moltke, still cherish the notion that generals are produced at West Point; as if one could grow elm-trees under earthenware pots! At bottom, what it all comes to is that military success is not achieved in the field. It is attained by long, arduous, and scientific preparation for war during peace time. Whatever emergency measures we may adopt as passing expedients, whatever may be in immediate store for us, whether of good luck or bad fortune, we must sooner or later get down to the scientific study of, and, following that, to the scientific preparation for, war. Every national problem of defence is composed of factors so various that for one country to copy another argues insufficient knowledge and skill. . . . Hard work, hard study of the details of the problem are necessary before correct solutions can be found."

Though the above quotation will appeal to the common sense of any reader yet probably the vast significance of it will hardly come with full force to one who has not been through our militia force, and, therefore, can appreciate all that the above military student has enunciated. Conditions arising very soon after the outbreak of this present war gave rise to statements, especially from Canadian correspondents who had followed the first of our troops to England, that were a surprise to the ordinary public. They seemed to indicate that the Canadian officers were wanting in training, and the appointments which were made seemed to carry the con-

clusion that the higher you got in rank the more difficult it seemed to find experienced officers in the first stages to fill the positions. Now, what does all this mean? It simply means that under a voluntary and centralised system, such as has been carried on in Canada, with its political interference, it is, and has been, simply impossible to produce efficient officers and to produce qualified leaders. Under a voluntary system, as has been from time to time alluded to in these pages, a citizen soldier who is an officer cannot take the time to do the recruiting which is necessary to keep his ranks filled, and at the same time qualify himself as he should be qualified for his various steps in rank. Again, in the matter of experience in the field in peace time, conditions resembling war have to be resorted to to give an officer the next best experience to war itself in handling troops. This entails comparative hardships to those undergoing the training; therefore in a voluntary system as carried out by us, if hardships were added to the sacrifice of the necessary time for training it would be more and more difficult to attract men into the ranks, and also a certain amount of additional expense for the government would be incurred, so that the outcome has been that the training is carried on in confined areas and virtually in and from fixed camps. The troops thereby lose all the advantage, and with its test of appliances and transport, etc., which follow in the manœuvres resembling war conditions.

We all know that facilities for the practice of the higher military work practically does not exist

at all in Canada, largely from the above mentioned reasons. True, a beginning has been made in the staff course, a mere beginning, but how many senior officers have been given an opportunity to practise at manœuvres with a command of full complements of all arms under them?

I am compelled to confess that, even in the case of my own brigade, composed as it happened to have been, of a mixed force, never during my tenure of command was the brigade even brought together. Perhaps it would be advisable to be a little explicit as this seems to be an extraordinary statement.

The brigade to which I have alluded is termed a "mounted brigade" and was composed of three regiments of cavalry, one battery of field artillery, one field troop of engineers, a company of army service corps, and a cavalry field ambulance. Naturally, for experience in training, one would like one's command together, and I so requested it, but not once during my tenure of command had I anything but the three cavalry regiments. One would suppose that experience to the commanding officer of a brigade would be part of a curriculum not only in manipulating his field command but in gradually acquiring experience of handling all arms of the service that are included in a division. Such, however, has not been the condition in the Canadian militia so far as I am aware. We have not had such practical experience as is acquired by, for example, the Swiss militia, as will be seen by reference to their mode of training, mentioned above and in the chapter on "Switzerland," but also, of

course, as is the custom in the British regular army, where officers are obliged to acquire experience in handling all arms of the service in their steps from one grade to the other.

I once asked a Swiss officer concerning their drill-sheds and was informed that with the exception of the Cantonal arsenals where stores were kept and the actual barracks in which recruits during the recruiting training were housed, there was no such thing as a drill-shed in all Switzerland, for, he added: "We train for war and armies do not do their fighting in buildings."

If inefficient training is one of the unfortunate but inevitable results of the voluntary system, what can be said of the resulting effect on the morale of the force, when they see that the system makes it possible for men to rise to important positions in the militia from other reasons than experience in its service, or for accomplishments in the field of active military operations before an enemy?

Can it be truthfully said that the long arm of political influence or personal favouritism has not been stretched across the ocean, indeed even to the line of our heroes battling against the foe; that the first consideration for promotion is at all times the invaluable experience gained in actual fighting, and that these veterans are the men who are invariably chosen for filling vacancies or for promotion? In *Lessons of a Decade,* Capt. Whittaker wrote in 1871, as the result of his experience in the Civil War in the United States, that one of the most important suggestions he could make was that offi-

cers for service should only be appointed in an acting capacity, to be confirmed when they prove their ability; for he contended that they only began to get satisfactory results when all of the first politically appointed officers had melted away, and promotion was made in the field.

Musketry Training.—The matter of shooting and rifle ranges has always been one of first-class importance. They may be said to be included in "musketry training."

Shooting from the days of the long-bow and cross-bow down to the present time, when a rifle can kill a man almost beyond eye-sight, has received varying amounts of care and attention at the hands of the people. Comparison in the methods in which this matter is treated in Canada, Switzerland, and Australia should not be without interest and profit.

There is one fundamental principle that might well be first considered and that is the excellent practice in Switzerland and Australia of doing their shooting each year at their local headquarters before coming to annual training. There is an immense benefit in this, for not only can time and attention be given to detail which cannot be spared with the large numbers at Annual Training, but the practice with us of training recruits in the rudiments of musketry and shooting during the training takes up much valuable time of the short twelve days annual training. Moreover, in the case of cavalry the loss of time for field work is emphasised by causing a useless expense from idle horses, and it often gives rise to much feeling when farm-

ers' sons are taken away from their own horses to act as markers at the butts. In the Report of the Militia Council of Canada for 1912, the Inspector-General states, "As a large percentage of recruits are sent to camps entirely ignorant of the rifle, much time is necessarily expended in preliminary instruction". . . . . "Owing to the lack of range accommodation, and the short training period, very little practice beyond 100-200 yards was affected, and this, while satisfactory in a measure, cannot be considered training commensurate with the need". . . . . "Many of the units training at local headquarters are without ranges, and consequently are practically untrained in musketry". . . . "In the provision of rifle ranges, much has been done of recent years, and there are now fifty of what might be called government ranges. Forty of these are in good order. . . . The remaining ten required repairs to a greater and less extent. In a few localities are to be found ranges provided and supported by Civilian Rifle Clubs, but these are generally of a make-shift character, and limited in use. . . . . The weakness of our largest and most complete ranges is the lack of facilities for practice at unknown distances and varied targets".

At the present moment there are 59 government ranges on government owned sites, and 13 government ranges constructed on leased sites. Owing to war conditions the number of ranges owned, leased and used exclusively by Civilian Rifle Associations is unknown. In 1914 there were 166 Military Rifle

Associations with 24,903 members and 417 Civilian Rifle Associations with 23,884 members.

Much importance is attached to shooting in Switzerland, and at the School of Recruits a considerable amount of the time is taken up in grounding the recruit in musketry and teaching him shooting. Officers and N.C.O.'s taking courses at the school also shoot.

Once in the Elite and Landwehr all have to carry out at least four exercises, of 10 shots each, every year in a rifle club. If they fail to do this they have to put in a special rifle course of three days without pay. In 1912 the number of rifle clubs that reported to the Military Department was 4,028, with 233,115 members, the Confederation giving $134,000 in subsidies. Special musketry courses were attended by 2,017 men.

Every village has its rifle range, provided by the Cantons.

To show the thoroughness of detail, I might mention an annual inspection of arms and equipment I witnessed in Switzerland, which is necessary for any member of the Elite (active militia) or Landwehr (1st reserve) who has not been called to training that year, and for all armed Landsturm (2nd reserve). The men in uniform had all their kit in front of them, every man with his two "little books" (one of general service and one of shooting), and each man had completely dismembered his rifle, down to the last spring and screw, with the bare wood lying alongside. Woe to the man where rust or moth had set its mark! It might

mean a month's jail or at any rate the humiliation of going home without his rifle, and payment for putting the defective article in perfect condition. A smart young lieutenant on duty (without pay) turned out to be a jeweller underneath my hotel, and the lift-man was in the ranks, a soldier every inch of him. A nation in arms! A true national militia, in which every able-bodied man must fit himself to play his part, and he reaps that benefit and bears those marks which physical training, military discipline, and personal self-sacrifice bring in their train.

Mr. F. A. Kuenzli states that "During the year 1910, a total of 44,000,000 shots were fired in rifle practice in Switzerland with its 4,000,000 population. In Germany (population 67,000,000) only 30,000,000 practice shots were fired, and in France (population 40,000,000), 20,000,000. It will be remembered that at the international shoot in Camp Perry, Ohio, September, 1913, Switzerland came out ahead of all competing nations. The official returns were: Switzerland, 4,959; France, 4,767; United States, 4,578; Sweden, 4,577; Peru, 3,892; Canada, 3,760".

In Australia in 1912 there were 250 military rifle ranges and 900 rifle club ranges, and 53,000 members of rifle clubs.

In view of the information given above it would seem to be a matter well worthy of consideration whether, in the event of money not being available for both, the country would not get much more value from the ranges constructed all over the coun-

try than for armouries, for in the latter case not only could men be taught to shoot and get practice at it, but the custom of having musketry, includin shooting, performed previous to the camps of annual training could then be carried out in Canada as in Switzerland and Australia.

Preparedness.—How indifferent the Canadian people have been to the matter of preparedness words cannot tell!

Where only a small proportion of the people choose of their own volition to take interest in a matter, the others become indifferent, it being none of their immediate business. Hence the few enthusiasts who have it in their blood to take an interest in military matters have been looked upon more or less as "cranks," or "dandies," who wish to parade in gold and silver, and wear fantastic headgear. When we realise that the militia proper has perhaps never exceeded in recent years before the war three-quarters of one per cent. that statement in itself should carry conviction as to the small proportion of the people who can be concerning themselves about "a citizen army." It therefore goes without saying that the feelings and interest of the whole people were not much affected when such a miscroscopic proportion were taking a practical interest in a matter which was open to all? This indifference allows the populace to be deceived as to real conditions; and being indifferent they are only too glad to accept "satisfactory" statements; for example, as late as May, 1914, the then Minister of Militia in his budget speech stated

that preparedness for war was his aim and object, and that the force was "never more efficient" or of higher standing than at the present time. Results soon proved, however, that the very essentials of organisation, strength, equipment, and efficiency were all lacking—as the inevitable outcome of a Voluntary Militia System. Of course the people are themselves to blame for a lack of interest, for their indifference, because if it were not so it would be impossible for a system to exist which could allow any political head, without the professional knowledge, to arrogate to himself the authorities and functions of a Commander-in-Chief.

Haply there was in Canada one man who had had vast experience in military matters, and it is probable that Sir Robert Borden alone can tell what Canada and the Empire owe to Field-Marshal H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, who had served in the regular army from the rank of a lieutenant through every stage to that of the highest obtainable position.

We have had, therefore, national indifference, and as the nation has not concerned itself, naturally the control, in a politically run community, such as Canada, has centred more and more to the form of an autocracy. From the old-time type of distributed interest and control, from the "Captains of the Parishes" to the local administration in the provinces; it has gradually left the people and territorial organisation, and settled under political control and the bureau governing it at the capital. Out of this has come the evil which, truthfully or

not, is said to be following our gallant troops even to the bloody plains of Flanders and France. Out of this we have seen shrink away from Canada one after another of the General Officers sent from Britain to be the technical chiefs of the Canadian Militia. Out of this has arisen the impossibility of efficiency in the Canadian service in Canada where a system exists which would make it possible for a political head, no matter who he may be or to what party he may belong, to interfere with the professional heads of the technical departments, which under modern conditions and the advances made in the science of armaments and appliances, have more and more specialised responsibilities to deal with. I shrink from appearing to trespass even on the threshold of politics, but I can hardly be charged with the offence when the customs I attack are common to both political parties, the outcome of too much bureaucracy. It can at least be said that we would do well to copy from the higher class departmental methods of the Motherland.

A personal incident will probably explain what is meant, and the vastly more that lies behind. Prior to the South African war I was given permission to be attached to a regular cavalry regiment in Egypt. On the war breaking out I asked that my permission might be shifted to a regiment in the South of Africa. I was informed by the G. O. C. that the War Office must be applied to. I went to England, saw Lord Lansdowne, then the British War-Lord. His private secretary subsequently wrote me to the effect that his Lordship had been

informed that his recommendation could not be complied with, owing to so many applications of a like nature having been refused! I take it that such a disassociation between the political chief and the technical staff has never been heard of in Canada, and until such is the case it is questionable if real efficiency can be arrived at under any military system that may be in vogue.

From a historical point of view the remarks of the private secretary which followed are not without interest, in showing how little the real conditions in South Africa seem to have been known even at the War Office, for he wrote that all he could suggest was for me to proceed to South Africa, where Corps of Irregular Horse were being raised, but, he added, the need for which might have passed away before I could reach there. (This was in November, 1899. I "took chances." Peace was declared in May, 1902!)

I will conclude my plea for a democratic system of national defence by quoting an American citizen as a representative of that Union which brags of the greatest individual freedom on earth. If the word "Dominion" be substituted for the last word "Union" every other word in the statement will apply with equal force as if the speaker was a Canadian, when last May the Adjutant-General of the State of New York, Brigadier-General Louis W. Stotesbury, said in an address: "All military students agree that the only safe and sound policy for any nation that is free and intends to remain so, is to adopt a policy based upon compulsion by which

every man, whether he wants to or not, is required to perform a patriot's duty; by which every man, when he attains the high state of citizenship, and even before, is taught the practical lessons of military training and exercise.

"It is the most democratic system that could possibly be devised. Under such a system none can complain. All are treated alike; all are required to render the same sort of service, to submit to the same system and discipline. Nothing so much increases the spirit of loyalty and patriotism as service. To make every citizen feel that he individually is part of the defensive force of the country would make him justly proud; the physical and mental training and discipline and practical instruction which is part of the education of a soldier to-day, would make him a more valuable citizen in every way; and the time spent in his military service would be returned to him many fold in increase of efficiency and ability for sustained and disciplined effort in all his subsequent career.

"It is fair in principle, avoids discrimination, excludes conscription, as well as the abominable practice of substitution or securing an exemption by payment of a stipulated amount. It makes a better man—a self-respecting man—in all, a better citizen—and we can become really strong and invincible only when every man in the broad expanse of our land can be taught cheerfully to recognise his obligation of service and to take pride in the satisfaction of the knowledge that he is a qualified de-

fender of our common liberty and one of the guardians of this glorious Union."

Any one who has gone thus far surely will now admit that in time of war the system of universal, patriotic military service would be the very bulwark of Canada's saftey. Supposing, however, that we never have another war, would we be any worse off by devoting time and attention to military training? Does the man who becomes an expert boxer and keeps in fine physical condition feel that his training was a blunder because he never had to fight? The time spent in learning to shoot and to march, to be respectful to authority and thoughtful for the men under him, would not be wasted for the busiest man in Canada, and twenty years thus employed at regular intervals would make Canadians worthy citizens of Canada, and praise can go no farther.

One last appeal—war or no war; if the present dire emergency does not demand it, the future of Canada and the British Empire depends on the adoption and practice of *Universal Military Training and Service.* The facts and figures through these pages should have furnished abundant proof of the necessity, and I pray that my fellow countrymen may be guided by them, and that a mere temporary make-shift to "win the war" be not their last resort.

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